WEDNESDAY
May 10, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
20 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

FOLLOW US
facebook.com/thehindu
twitter.com/the_hindu
instagram.com/the_hindu

Vol.54 • No.110

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Tirupati » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

Gruha Lakshmi
₹2000/month for women

Gruha Jyothi
200 units FREE electricity

Anna Bhagya
10kg rice per person/month

Yuva Nidhi
₹3000/ month for graduates
₹1500/ month for diploma holders

Uchita Prayana
Free Bus Service for Women

PRESS THE HAND BUTTON. ENSURE KARNATAKA WINS.

ಸಿರಿಗನ್ನಡಂ ಗೆಲ್ಗೆ.
ಸಿರಿಗನ್ನಡಂ ಬಾಳ್ಗೆ.

Vote for the Party that will solve Karnataka's Issues.

Vote for the Party that protects Karnataka's Pride.

Vote for Peace, Progress and Prosperity.

The power to do this is in your Hand.
Vote Wisely. **Vote for Congress.**

Press the 'Hand' button Ensure Congress wins

WEDNESDAY
May 10, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
20 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

FOLLOW US
facebook.com/thehindu
twitter.com/the_hindu
instagram.com/the_hindu

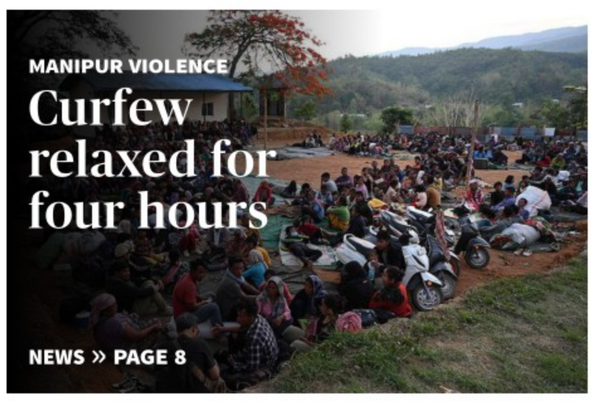
Vol.54 • No.110

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Tirupati » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

SACHIN HITS OUT

'Vasundhara seems to be Gehlot's leader'

NEWS » PAGE 9



MANIPUR VIOLENCE

Curfew relaxed for four hours

NEWS » PAGE 8

THIRD FATALITY

Cheetah from South Africa dies in Kuno

NEWS » PAGE 10

MUZAFFARNAGAR RIOTS

Two men get 20 years in jail in gang rape case

Judge also imposes a fine of ₹15,000 each

NEWS » PAGE 8

ON THE RISE

Suryakumar's blitz pilots MI to third

SPORT » PAGE 15

Karnataka all set for high-stakes polls today

The Hindu
BENGALURU

It is time for the battle of ballots in Karnataka, with 5,31,33,054 voters in the State set to elect 224 members to its 16th Legislative Assembly on Wednesday.

Voting will take place between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. in 58,545 polling booths across the State.

A total of 2,615 candidates are contesting the elections.

All three major political parties in contention -- the BJP, Congress and JD(S) -- and their candidates have been involved in the high-decibel campaigns ahead of elections, with both State and national leaders holding roadshows and rallies ever since elections were declared.

Counting of votes will be on May 13.

DETAILS ON » PAGE 12

Imran Khan arrested, protests erupt in Pak.

The former Prime Minister was arrested when he appeared in court to seek bail in multiple corruption cases and taken to Rawalpindi; his wife and other PTI leaders are facing inquiry too

Mehmal Sarfraz
LAHORE

Private security personnel with bulletproof shields escort Imran Khan as he arrives to appear in a court in Islamabad. AP

Former Prime Minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman Imran Khan was arrested on Tuesday from the Islamabad High Court where he appeared seeking bail in multiple corruption cases, triggering demonstrations across the country that saw his supporters vandalising buildings.

The Rangers personnel were acting on arrest warrants issued by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) in the Al-Qadir Trust corruption case.

PTI leaders condemned the arrest and asked party workers and supporters to step out and "protest peacefully". Mr. Khan's lawyer Ali Gohar alleged that the Rangers "tortured" the former Prime Minister during the arrest.

"Imran Khan was hit on the head and his injured leg," he said.

However, the government denied all such allegations.

"Imran Khan has been arrested by the NAB, which is an independent body. The arrest is not on government orders. Imran Khan always professed that those accused of corruption charges must clear them in courts. Al-Qadir case is a serious corruption case in which Imran Khan allowed £190 million recovery of the state to be siphoned to a real estate tycoon in return for personal material favours," Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, told *The Hindu*.

Dated May 1 and signed by NAB chairman Lt. Gen. Nazir Ahmed, Mr. Khan's arrest warrants said he was accused of corruption and corrupt practices under Section 9(a) of the National Accountability Ordinance, 1999.

The High Court, late in the evening, declared Mr. Khan's arrest "legal". Earlier, it had reserved its verdict on the legality issue.

Mr. Khan, his wife, Bushra Bibi, and other PTI leaders are facing an NAB inquiry.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 8

Fatal plunge: The bus fell from the bridge on a dry bed of the Borad river near Dongargaon village. ANI

24 killed as bus falls off a bridge in M.P.

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

At least 24 people were killed and 40 injured when a bus fell off a bridge and crashed into a dry river bed in Madhya Pradesh's Khargone on Tuesday.

The incident took place at 8.40 a.m. when the bus, carrying over 50 passengers and headed to Indore from Khargone's Shrikhandi village, hit the protective railing and fell on the bed of the Borad river near Dongargaon village.

The matter was reported to the police, and the injured were taken to the district hospital in Khargone, where many of the survivors are still under treatment.

Agriculture Minister Kamal Patel said that *prima facie* it was a lapse by the driver as well as the local transport authorities as 67 passengers were travelling in a 35-seater bus and the bus was speeding.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 8

NEARBY

BBMP warns of action against private firms

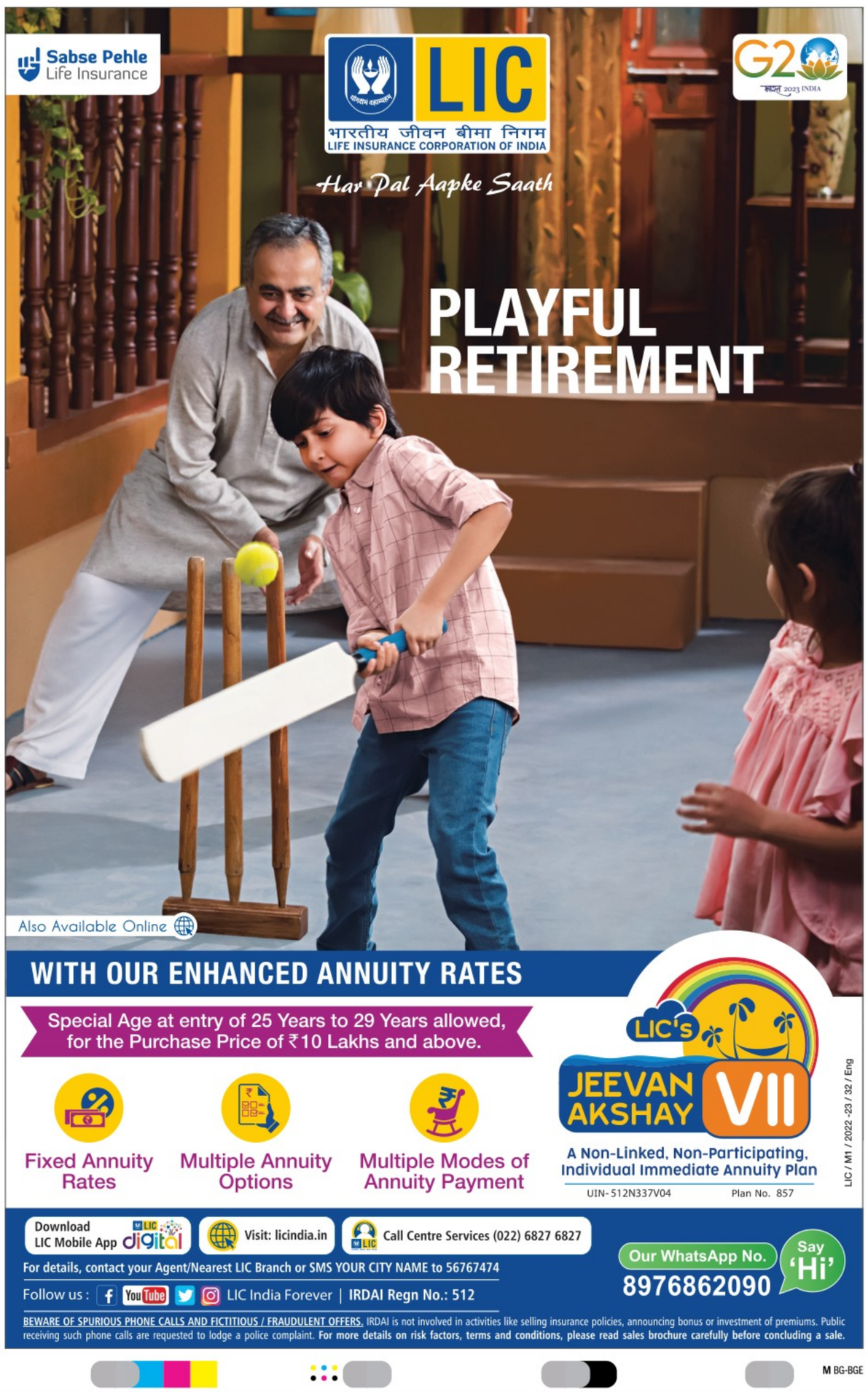
BENGALURU
the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike warned of action against private companies that fail to give leave to employees to vote on Wednesday. » Page 2

KSRTC forced to run 500 BMTC buses

BENGALURU
Curtailment of bus services operated by the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) resulted in chaos at the Majestic bus-stand on Tuesday evening.

» Page 3

OPPORTUNITIES » PAGE 11



WEDNESDAY
May 10, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
20 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

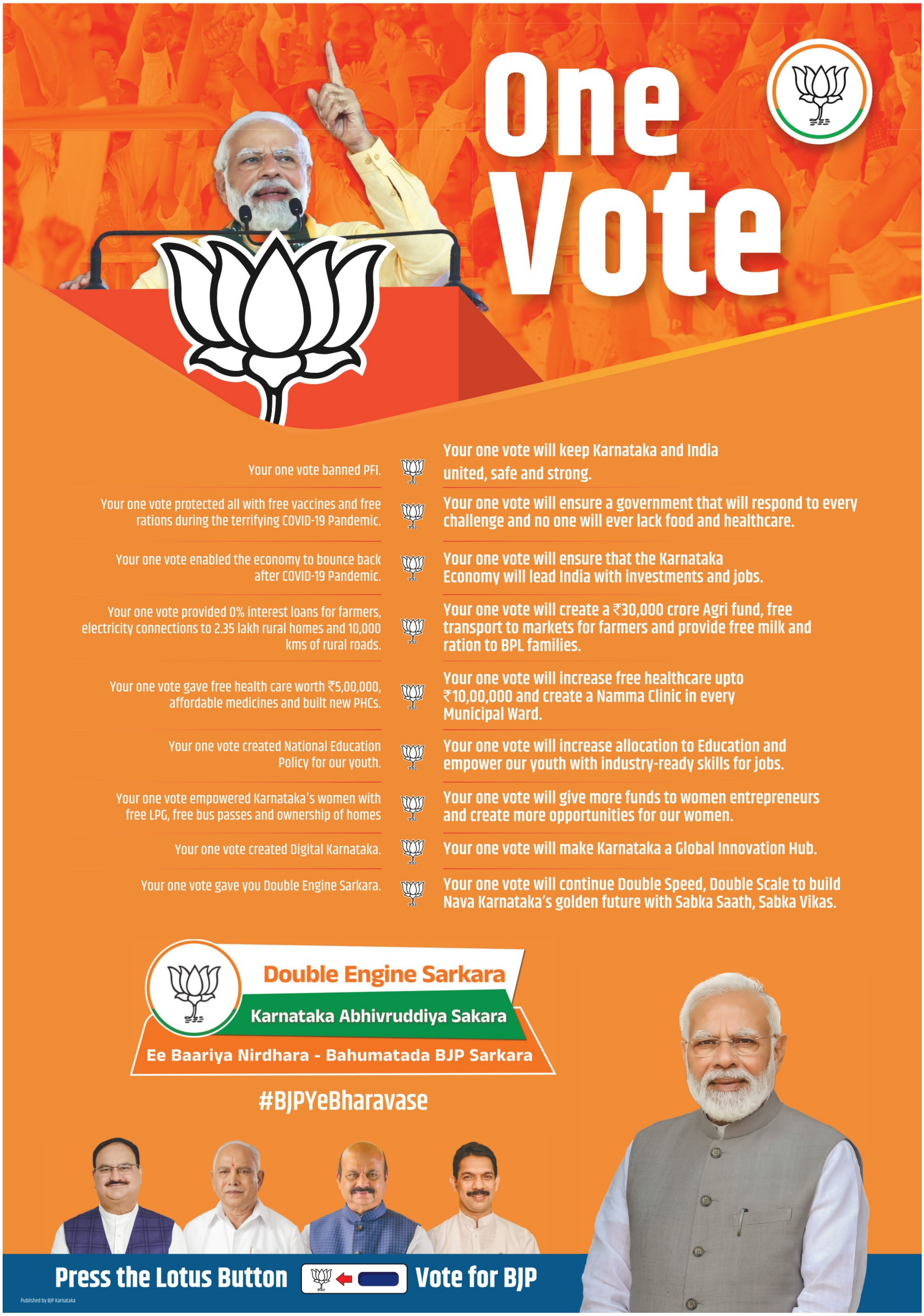
www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

FOLLOW US
facebook.com/thehindu
twitter.com/the_hindu
instagram.com/the_hindu

Vol.54 • No.110

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Tirupati » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna



OPPORTUNITIES

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT • JOBS • TECHNOLOGY

'Eight out of every 10 organisations face a dearth of relevant tech talent'

With technology-based job roles taking on newer complexities, a growing number of organisations are acknowledging the need to work on their talent base, according to a new study

Liffy Thomas

The adoption of skill taxonomy and benchmarking is a clear indicator that the increasing complexity of tech skills is making it necessary for leaders to reconstruct their talent acquisition, development and management strategies

With technology acting as a leaven transforming businesses and impacting all job roles, these two findings from a recent study by EY and iMocha hardly raise eyebrows. Eighty-one percent of the organisations are faced with a shortage of "power user or developer tech" skills. And two, 28% of the organisations feel the necessity of revamping tech skills for a third of their talent base by 2025.

The study – 'Tech Skills Transformation - Navigating The Future Of Work In 2025 And Beyond' – notes 19% of the organisations have a skill taxonomy in place. Skill taxonomy denotes a structured system to categorise and organise various skills and competencies according to job roles. And 43% of the organisations have conducted skill benchmarking at the employee level.

"The adoption of skill taxonomy and benchmarking is a clear indicator that the increasing complexity of tech skills is making it necessary for leaders to reconstruct their talent acquisition, development and management strategies," says Amit D Mishra, founder and CEO, iMocha.

The study pegs the global tech talent pool at over 26 million people – 65% of them are in software engineering roles, followed by 27% in IT roles and 8% in business app-related roles.

As per the study, application developers and business app users are in high demand – 76% and 62% respectively, as stated by the organisations surveyed. Independent software vendors (ISVs) and IT/ITeS are the largest supply pool of tech skills with the United States, India, European Union and the United Kingdom accounting for nearly 56% of the total talent pool.

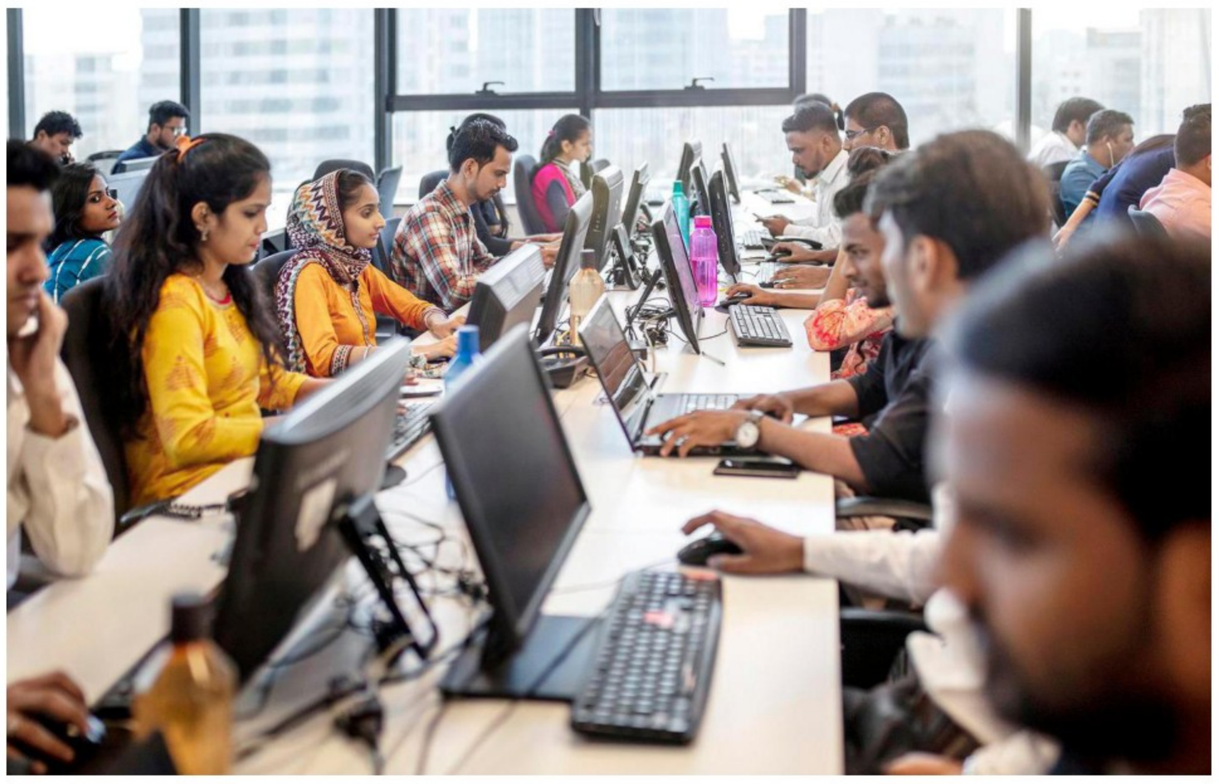


Photo used for representational purpose. GETTY IMAGES

Broader job roles

Venkatesh Radhakrishnan, partner, workforce advisory, EY India, reveals a power software developer is now expected to have end-to-end knowledge straddling design, architecture, development, deployment and maintenance.

Similarly, a 'power' IT engineer is expected to have expertise in the use of multiple tools along with AI-based tools for IT support, reporting, diagnosis, monitoring and customer management.

In a press release, Alpana Dutta, partner, People Advisory Services, EY India notes with technology skills proving valuable across job roles, functions and industries, it is not surprising that 62% of the employers believe that 5-15% of their talent base will require skills transformation in the next two to three years, with 33% of the employers estimating that 15-35+ % of their talent base will require this upgrade.

For HR leaders, enabling tech skills transformation will necessitate taking a multi-disciplinary approach, with a focus on developing granular, real-time intelligence into an organisation's skills inventory. We also expect to see increasing investment in skills intelligence platforms, Alpana says.

The study had respondents from India, the US, the UK and EU representing a range of industries, including IT/ITeS (41%), BFSI (29%), Telecom (9%) and independent software vendors (16%).

GENERAL

VicenteFerrer
Rural Development Trust

WANTED

VETERINARY DOCTORS / SURGEONS IN RURAL AREAS.

Rural Development Trust, a reputed NGO in Anantapur District of Andhra Pradesh **REQUIRES 2 VETERINARY DOCTORS / SURGEONS (BVSC)** with experience in working with small animals such as street dogs and cats. The aim of the program is to sterilize, vaccinate and where necessary give essential treatment.

The program also emphasizes the importance of giving awareness to families to adopt / look after street dogs.

SALARY NEGOTIABLE

Those Veterinary doctors with an interest in the health and welfare of street animals can apply on or before **June 10th, 2023.** to :

Mrs. ANNE FERRER, Executive Director
28-4-407, Vincent Ferrer Nagar, RDT Office, Anantapur.
Email:annayvicente@hotmail.com

Sd/- Chairman, RDT, Anantapur.

NEHRU INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL (CBSE)
learn from the pioneers
NEHRU GROUP OF INSTITUTIONS
TAMILNADU • KERALA
www.nehrucolleges.com
50+

Looking For

PRINCIPAL

- Excellent academic and leadership qualities
- Versatile with strong value system
- Minimum 5 years of experience as Principal / Vice Principal / Academic Coordinator (Preferably in CBSE/ICSE School)
- Candidates willing to serve as a residential Principal

PA to CORRESPONDENT

- MBA Graduate with good computer skills, excellent command over English and written skills.

Attractive salary will be given for deserving candidates

Apply within 10 days :
The HR Department, Nehru College,
Palakkad Main Road, Kuniamuthur, Coimbatore-08.
Tel: 90039 36357/ 99409 13234.
E-mail: ngihr@nehrucolleges.com
www.nehruinternationalschool.com nehruinternationalschool

NBA NBA: CSE, ECE, EEE, ME, CE (2022-25)
Muthoot Institute of Technology & Science
RELENTLESS PASSION FOR EXCELLENCE
nirf 251-300 (Engg 2022)

WANTED PASSIONATE CANDIDATES FOR TEACHING AND RESEARCH.

Join our top-ranked institution and let's change the world together!

PROFESSOR & ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

Qualification
- PhD from a reputed University or Institute of National/ International standing in the respective discipline with experience as per AICTE norms.
- Candidates should have quality indexed publications and a demonstrable aptitude for research work and consultancy in their domain of interest.
- Candidates with quality research exposure and publications in AI, Data Science, Cybersecurity and allied areas will be given preference.

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS IN COMPUTER APPLICATIONS AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Qualification
- As per AICTE norms.

RESEARCH FACULTY POSITIONS - ALL DISCIPLINES

Qualification
- Doctorate in Engineering with a good H-index profile, proven track record of high quality research projects with adequate funding in the last five years.

Salary shall not be a constraint for eligible candidates.
Apply within 10 days with a detailed CV stating previous research activities and future research plans, and SOP to **hr@mgits.ac.in** or to the address

HR Department, Muthoot Institute of Technology & Science, Varikoli, Puthencruz, Ernakulam, Kerala. Pin-682308.
Ernakulam, **Ph: 0484-2732111**

A Muthoot M George Enterprise

WATER METRO
KOCHI WATER METRO LTD
(A joint venture company of Govt. of Kerala & KMRL)
4th Floor, JLN Stadium Metro Station, Kaloor, Ernakulam-682017
Ph: 0484-2350455

CAREER

KWML invites applications for various posts for its OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

For more details and for submission of the application log on to www.kochimetro.org/careers.

Last date of receipt of online applications 21st May 2023

M.G.R. COLLEGE (Arts & Science)
HOSUR-635 130, Krishnagiri Dt. T.N.
www.mgrcollege.ac.in

Applications are invited for the following posts

PROFESSORS, ASSOCIATE PROFS, ASST. PROFS

Commerce, Business Administration, Computer Science & Applications, Biotechnology, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Hotel Management & Catering, Maths, English, Tamil, Physics, Chemistry, Library

Eligibility & Salary: As per norms. Higher Salary may be considered to the eminent & visionary having outstanding academic and research record. Apply on or before 20-05-2023 with detailed CV.

Send the resume with all testimonials to
mgrrecruitment2023@gmail.com

PRINCIPAL

COME, INSPIRE THE GENERATION OF TOMORROW.

RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION

Anurag University is looking for

PROFESSORS, ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS AND ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

for the following disciplines

ENGINEERING

CSE, Cyber Security, Data Science, AI, AI & ML and IT

MEDICAL SCIENCES

Clinical Departments: *General Medicine, Paediatrics, General Surgery, OBG, Orthopaedics, Dermatology, Psychiatry, Anaesthesia, Urology, Neuro Physics, Medical Gastroenterology, Respiratory Medicine, Radio Diagnosis, ENT and Ophthalmology.*

Pre & Para Clinical Departments: *Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry, Pharmacology, Pathology, Microbiology, Forensic Medicine and Community Medicine.*

Eligibility is as per the UGC/AICTE norms (for Engineering) and NMC (for Medical Sciences).

Interested candidates scan the QR code and fill the application form.
Interviews will be conducted offline/online.

Scan QR code to apply

ANURAG UNIVERSITY
HYDERABAD, TELANGANA.
www.anurag.edu.in

OVERSEAS

UNIVERSITY OF ALLAHABAD
(Central University)

Advt/AUNT/01/2023 Brief Advertisement 03/05/2023

Advertisement for Non-Teaching Positions

University of Allahabad invites applications from the Indian citizen for the post of **Registrar (01), Finance Officer (01), Controller of Examination (01), Internal Audit Officer (01)- On Deputation.** Separate applications must be submitted for each post. Eligibility & other related details & Application form can be downloaded from University Website: www.allduniv.ac.in. Complete printed application along with necessary documents and bank receipt of payment of fees must reach to the office of the Registrar by 30 May, 2023 till 05:00 P.M. University of Allahabad along with one set of self attested photocopy in support of their essential qualifications and experience.

Registrar

ODEPC Ltd
ODEPC
OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT PROMOTION CONSULTANTS LTD.
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking)
B-0882/KER/COM/1000+/5/2224/1987
Floor 5, Carmel Towers, Opp. Cotton Hill High School, Vazhuthacadu, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India- 695014

Recruitment of Female Housemaids Beauticians and Cooks to BAHRAIN

Age limit: 25-45. Qualification: 10th Level. **Salary : BHD 100-150**

Email your CV and copies of certificates to: **gcc@odepc.in** on or before **15th** May 2023. Ph:0471-2329441/42/43/6238514446
Website: www.odepc.kerala.gov.in

GENERAL

KOCHI METRO RAIL LIMITED
KOCHI METRO RAIL LIMITED
(A joint venture company of Govt. of India & Govt. of Kerala)
4th Floor, JLN Stadium Metro Station, Kaloor, Ernakulam-682017
Ph: 0484-2846700

CAREER

KMRL invites application for various posts for its Phase II & IURWTS Projects

For more details and for submission of online application log on to www.kochimetro.org/careers.

Last date of receipt of applications 24th May 2023

Technology Innovation Hub @ ISI Kolkata
Recruitment Notice

ISI/TIH/2022/88

The IDEAS-Technology Innovation Hub (Institute of Data Engineering, Analytics and Science Foundation), is a Section-8 not-for-profit company incorporated at the Indian Statistical Institute Kolkata. It is an Innovation Hub in the technology vertical "Data Science, Big Data Analytics, and Data Curation". We are looking for dynamic individuals with a strong bias for action for the role of Finance Officer, Chief Executive Officer, Innovation Officer, Project Manager, Technology Officer, Data Scientist, Project Engineer, System Administrator, Research Engineer, Research Associate, Associate Researcher, Associate Research Engineer. Please visit https://www.isical.ac.in/~tihisi/Jobs.html.

For Chanakya fellowship (Graduate, Post-Graduate, Doctoral, Post-doctoral, Faculty, Chair Professor) please visit https://www.isical.ac.in/~tihisi/Fellowship.html.

for Call for Start-up proposal (PRAYAS, EIR, SSS, INP), please visit https://www.isical.ac.in/~tihisi/Prayas.html.

And for Call for Collaborative Translational Research Proposals, please visit https://www.isical.ac.in/~tihisi/Project.html.

e-mail: tihisi@isical.ac.in, Phone Number: 6289351800

Sd/-
Project Director,
IDEAS-TIH, ISI Kolkata.

APPOINTMENTS 2023
PERIYAR MANIAMMAI INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
think • innovate • transform

VICE - CHANCELLOR

Periyar Maniammai Institute of Science & Technology is looking for an outstanding, dynamic individual with high level of competence, integrity, moral, institutional commitment and willing to take up the challenge of being the Vice-Chancellor. The prospective Vice-Chancellor requires to have an impeccable academic qualification from a recognized University with proven record in administrative abilities and exemplary leadership qualities.

The candidate should be a distinguished academician with 10 years of experience as Professor in a University or 10 years of experience in a reputed Research or academic administrative organization. Age should not exceed 65 years as on 31st May, 2023.

Compensation will be on par with that of a Vice-Chancellor of a Central University. Kindly **apply within 15days** at:

searchcommittee@pmu.edu

Please apply with CV, 2 references and road map for 5 years.

Periyar Nagar, Vallam, Thanjavur – 613 403.
Tel: +91-4362-264600 | Email: registrar@pmu.edu
Visit us at: www.pmu.edu

Registrar

INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED VIROLOGY
Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala - 695317

RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION

IAV/308/HR/2023 04/05/2023

Applications are invited for appointment to the following scientist positions on direct recruitment basis:

Sl	Position	Pay level (as per 6th CPC)	No of vacancies
1	Senior Principal Scientist	PB-4, GP-8900	01
2	Principal Scientist	PB-4, GP-8700	07

For detailed notification and online link for submitting the application, log on to www.iav.kerala.gov.in.

Last date for the receipt of online application: 30.06.2023.

Sd/-
Director

ENGG./PRODN./TECH.

'Har Ek Kaam Desh Ke Naam'

BHARAT ELECTRONICS
QUALITY, TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION

BHARAT ELECTRONICS LIMITED
(A Govt. of India Enterprise under the Ministry of Defence)
(CIN: L32309KA1954GOI000787)

Bharat Electronics Limited, a Navartna Company and India's premier professional electronics Company under the Ministry of Defence, requires the following personnel on temporary basis for its Missile Systems SBU at project sites in various locations:

Sl. No.	Post	Qualification	No. of Posts	Experience	Period of contract	Locations
1.	Project Engineer	Full time BE / B.Tech in: a) Electronics/Electronics & Communication/ Electronics & Telecommunication/ Telecommunication/Communication	UR - 01, EWS - 01 OBC - 02, ST - 01 **Total - 5**	2 years	3 Years, Extendable upto 1 more year	Leh Awantipur Pathankot

For detailed advertisement please visit "Recruitments" section in our website **www.bel-india.in.**

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The number of cases against the former Pakistan PM

121 Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan was arrested by paramilitary Rangers on Tuesday. Charges against him include committing treason, blasphemy and inciting violence and terrorism. PTI

The worth of seizures from election-bound Karnataka

375 In ₹ crore. The Election Commission informed that the worth of seizures by enforcement agencies in the State was 4.5 times more than what was recovered during the 2018 Assembly Election. PTI

The number of workers laid off at LinkedIn

716 LinkedIn is shuttering its China jobs app, in the latest round of tech industry downsizing. LinkedIn blamed "shifts in customer behaviour and slower revenue growth" for the cuts in a blog. AP

The number of people displaced in Sudan according to the UN

7 In lakh. Heavy fighting in Sudan has displaced citizens in the country, the UN said, adding that the figure had doubled in a week. Even before the fighting, 3.7 million people were registered as internally displaced in Sudan. AFP

The amount Goldman Sachs is to pay to settle discrimination lawsuit

215 In $ million. Goldman Sachs has agreed to settle a long-running lawsuit. Employees have accused the company of gender bias and sexual harassment. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

Follow us facebook.com/thehindu twitter.com/the_hindu instagram.com/the_hindu

Minimising the threat from IEDs

Why are improvised explosive devices potent tools in the hands of militants? What can be done beyond standard operating procedures to take on terrorists in Kashmir or Maoists in central India?

EXPLAINER

Santosh Mehra

The story so far:

On May 5, five soldiers were killed and another was injured in a gunfight with militants in the Rajouri-Poonch sector of Jammu division. According to the Army, the gunfight broke out after an explosive device was triggered when a search team established contact with a group of terrorists hiding in a cave in the Kandi forests, killing two soldiers. On April 26, an IED (improvised explosive device) killed 10 security personnel of the District Reserve Guard in Chattisgarh's Dantewada area. The jawans were out on an anti-Maoist mission when they were ambushed.

Were any tactical mistakes made?

The quintessential dilemma for security forces is that they are dealing with an enemy who is faceless, unidentifiable and hidden among the people. Wedded to upholding the law of the land and protecting its people, security personnel can open fire only in self-defence, not on apprehension. Militants, whether they are the Lashkar-e-Taiba in Kashmir or the Maoists in central India, have the 'first mover advantage', on triggering a landmine or an IED on a mobile Army vehicle or opening burst fire with an AK-47 on a static CRPF sentry post.

In all such scenarios, particularly in landmine/IED ambushes, the reaction or the response time available for what is called "Immediate Action (IA) or Counter Ambush drill" is a few seconds, and that too, if a few of the security personnel are lucky enough to survive the initial IED ambush. Hence, all standard operating systems and procedures, technological measures etc. are directed towards identification and detection of IEDs/landmines and to avoid being caught in them.

How can errors be minimised?

The first thing that must be kept in mind is to avoid travel by vehicle. The safest mode of travel is on foot in a region where left-wing extremism is active. Studies show that over 60% of casualties/fatalities in Maoist territories are because of vehicles ambushed in landmines/IEDs, as also seen in the recent Chhattisgarh incident. Routine operations like area domination, cordon-and-search, long range patrolling, ambush-cum-patrolling and so forth should only be undertaken on foot. Vehicle travel should be undertaken rarely and that too, only for urgent operational reasons, after exercising due diligence.

If vehicle travel is absolutely essential, the onward and return journeys should never be by the same route, nor undertaken during the day time. A little-known fact is that Maoists, to avoid the risk of civilian casualties, neither trigger IEDs during night time, nor use anti-personnel/pressure induced mines. The exact timing of triggering IEDs is also an issue during night time. Hence, night travel by vehicles is relatively safe for security forces. Unfortunately, in most instances, the security forces travelled during daytime and that too by the same route, resulting in fatalities.

Will moving around in camouflage help?

Stealth, camouflage and concealment are integral to anti-terrorist operations. Olive green vehicles of the Army and light green vehicles of the CRPF are easily identified from a distance, giving adequate time and opportunity to terrorists to organise an IED ambush. If vehicle travel is absolutely essential, security forces are expected to take civilian or State Road Transport Corporation buses. To avoid easy identification, they must travel with civilians in mufti with weapons carefully concealed.

Ambush attack: Onlookers stand at the site of the attack in Dantewada district of Chhattisgarh on April 27. AFP

What about armoured vehicles and other protective gear?

In certain war zones, vehicular deployment is inevitable. Security forces working in such areas should be equipped with appropriate protective gear, such as blast-resistant clothing, helmets, and eye protection. Their vehicles should also be equipped with V-shaped and armour-plated hull, blast-resistant technology and proper sandbagging to minimise damage in the event of an explosion. Machine guns and other weapons should be mounted on top of the vehicles with outward facing rotatory seats, from where the men can have a 360-degree observation outside.

Also, security forces should always travel in a convoy of minimum two to three vehicles, maintaining a distance of at least 40 to 50 metres between them, so that even if one vehicle is caught in a landmine, the personnel in other vehicles are able to take positions and neutralise the threat.

How can a region be made safe for travel?

Rigorous and regular implementation of various detection methods, such as metal detectors, ground-penetrating radar, and trained sniffer dogs, to locate and clear landmines and IEDs, is essential. Road opening parties play an important role in detection of ambushes. Aerial surveillance carried out through drones and road opening parties equipped with UGVs (Unmanned Ground Vehicles), can not only detect the presence of terrorists to carry out operations but also pick tell-tale signs of a likely ambush like piles of rock and mud bags, dugout portions on the sides of the roads, and absence of people or movement of other vehicles.

Based on the above inputs, areas known or suspected to contain landmines or IEDs can be mapped and contingency plans prepared for them. This includes establishing safe routes, setting up checkpoints, and creating evacuation plans as part of both preventive and mitigation measures.

What about Intelligence inputs?

While it is important to gather actionable intelligence, due to enormous risks of reprisals by terrorists, locals usually do not divulge information for money alone. Winning of hearts and minds is neither easy nor quick. Relationships have to be cultivated and goodwill generated among the local population on a long-term basis beyond and above transactional levels. This requires patience, commitment, empathy and integrity on the part of security forces, which is sometimes lacking.

What can be learnt from an explosion?

There is simply no substitute for good, old routine investigation of crimes, including that of IED ambushes. An IED ambush is not an insular, standalone event. There is a whole ecosystem behind it, comprising of financiers, suppliers, transporters, builders and triggermen. It is pertinent to mention here that in just one year alone (2008-9) in Afghanistan, the U.S. forensic investigation teams picked up a mindboggling 5,000 finger prints from the remnants of IEDs and explosives, recovered from the scenes of bomb blasts. This enabled identification and detection of hundreds of suspects and accomplices involved in IED ambushes. Diligent and scientific investigation, establishment of linkages through meticulous collection and marshalling of evidence, framing of chargesheets, followed by speedy trials and conviction, serve as a strong deterrent to terrorism.

What are some of the other measures that need to be undertaken?

Several measures need to be undertaken at the government level, both at the Centre and States. These include collaboration with international organisations, NGOs, and other countries to share information, resources, and best practices for landmine and IED prevention, detection, and clearance; implementation and enforcement of national and international laws, policies, and regulations aimed at preventing the use, production, and trade of landmines and IEDs.

Legislative measures are required for mandatory addition of odoriferous chemicals and/or biosensors to explosives used in industry and mining etc. for their easy detection during transport. Likewise, legislative measures are required for stricter controls on manufacture, supply and sale of explosives and detonators. Other countries have taken several counter-IED measures spending billions. The U.S., for example, set up the Joint Improvised-Threat Defeat Organization to "prevent, identify and defeat IEDs" and has spent about $20 billion on counter IED measures since 2005. NATO's Counter-IED Centre of Excellence is based in Madrid; a small unit exists in India under the National Security Guard. But given that IEDs have been causing major setbacks to fighting militants in India, it is high time that an overarching agency is created under the Ministry of Home Affairs to coordinate the efforts of both the Government of India and the State governments, and to provide legislative, technological and procedural support to law enforcement agencies.

Santosh Mehra, IPS, is former DG, NHRC & DG, APSPF

THE GIST

- On April 26, an IED (improvised explosive device) killed 10 security personnel of the District Reserve Guard in Chattisgarh's Dantewada area. The jawans were out on an anti-Maoist mission when they were ambushed.
- Rigorous and regular implementation of various detection methods, such as metal detectors, ground-penetrating radar, and trained sniffer dogs, to locate and clear landmines and IEDs, is essential.
- Legislative measures are required for mandatory addition of odoriferous chemicals and/or biosensors to explosives used in industry and mining etc. for their easy detection during transport. Likewise, legislative measures are required for stricter controls on manufacture, supply and sale of explosives and detonators.

THE HINDU GROUP

A SPECIAL PUBLICATION FROM
THE HINDU GROUP

The coffee-table book features articles by well-known writers on Hindu religion and philosophy on subjects such as Srinivasa Kalyanam, Sri Ramanuja and his association with Tirumala, the story of Ananthalwan, Krishnadeva Raya's Amuktha Malyada, the beauty of Sri Lakshmi Sahasram and on the importance of Vaikunta Ekadasi. The collector's edition also features rare pictures of Lord Venkateswara, Sri Padmavathi and Tirumala.

AVAILABLE NOW

₹ 1499*

*Shipping charges extra | conditions apply

BOOK YOUR COPY ONLINE

Visit: **publications.thehindugroup.com/bookstore/**
For bulk booking, e-mail: **bookstore@thehindu.co.in**
For any enquiries call: **1800 102 1878**

BBMP warns of action against pvt. firms that fail to give leave to employees who want to vote

This follows several complaints that IT/BT companies in Bengaluru have not announced leave to their employees to vote

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

After the Election Commission received several complaints that IT/BT companies based in Bengaluru had not announced leave to the employees to vote on Wednesday, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) warned of action against private companies that fail to give leave to employees for elections.

The BBMP, in a release on Tuesday, stated, "In view of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly election scheduled on 10 May, to facilitate voters to cast their votes under the Representation of the Peoples Act, 1951 section 135(B) 1, grant of paid holiday to the employees on the day of poll is mandatory on Wednesday."

"This applies to every person employed in any business trade, industrial undertaking, or any other establishments and entitled to vote at elections to the House of the People or the Legislative Assembly of a State shall, on the day of the poll, be granted a holiday," the release added.

Polling officials cast their votes at the facilitation centre at Sri Jnanakshi Vidyaniketan school in Rajarajeshwarinagar, in Bengaluru on Tuesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Speaking to *The Hindu*, BBMP chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said that they have already received several complaints that various companies have not announced a holiday. "In this regard, we have already issued an order to grant holiday to employees on voting day. However, a few companies are not following it. Any establishment that is non-compliant to this order, the CEO of the company will be prosecuted," he said.

The release also stated in case of any violation in this regard by any organisation strict legal action will be initiated against such organisation as per the Representation of People Act 1951 and other relevant laws.

The BBMP has advised the citizens to report such incidents by dialing 1950 (toll-free number).

Election holiday

Businesses have declared a closed holiday on May 10, Wednesday, to millions of employees, comprising techies, ITeS executives, other professionals, start-up employees, MSME staff, garment workers and construction labourers, in order to encourage them to cast their votes without any inconvenience.

Top-league IT services providers such as Tata Consultancy Services, Infosys and Wipro have confirmed that their offices in the State would remain closed so that their employees would be able to exercise their franchise at ease. Karnataka has a pool of close to 2 million tech workers.

Almost all tech and manufacturing MNCs and research and development outfits have also announced a closed holiday on account of the Assembly Election in Karnataka. Employees of KPMG, PwC, Deloitte and EY are also given a holiday on the day of voting. State and central PSUs in the state will also remain closed on Wednesday.

According to various trade bodies, Kassia, FKCCI and BCIC, over 6 lahks medium, small, micro-enterprises that employ millions of workers have also exempted them from work on the voting day.

However, some private companies had stated that with the work-from-home option, many employees are back in their hometowns, including out of the State. "Those who are from Karnataka can take paid leave to vote by applying for it," said an HR representative of a company.

HC allows hoteliers to offer free food to those who cast vote, but with a rider

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday night stayed the operation of the press note issued by the office of the District Election Officer, through the Assistant Commissioner (Elections) of the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, that had warned hoteliers of action for providing food either free of cost or at discounted rate for those who cast their vote.

However, the court imposed a condition on the hoteliers that their offers should not be sponsored by any political parties. Nor can the hoteliers claim credit for themselves or on behalf of political parties. The court also made it clear that the authorities can take action against the hoteliers in case of any law and order problem due to such offers to voters. The court also gave liberty to the authorities to prosecute the hoteliers if they are found violating the Model Code of Conduct.

The court imposed a condition on the hoteliers that their offers should not be sponsored by any political parties

Justice T.G. Shivashankare Gowda passed the interim order on a petition filed by Bruhat Bangalore Hotels' Association and Krishnaraj S.P., proprietor of hotel Nisarga Grand on Nrupathunga Road.

The election authorities, in its press released issued on Tuesday morning, had said that the offers of free food or food at discounted price for casting vote would be considered as "inducement and violation of Model Code of Conduct (MCC)."

Appearing for the petitioners, advocate Satish K. contended that the association is not affiliated to any political party and the offer of complimentary food to people to cast their vote was being made from past several elections.

It was also pointed out to the court that the assistant election officer of Shivajinagar Assembly constituency had on April 15 granted permission to Mr. Krishnaraj to offer selected food items free of cost to voters at his own cost.

Mr. Krishnaraj had approached the Shivajinagar constituency election authorities after the office of the Chief Electoral Officer, from whom the association had sought permission to offer complimentary food to voters, asked the association and its members to approach the election authorities of the BBMP.

Following this, the court said that the authorities, after having permitted hoteliers to make such offers with conditions, could not have issued such a press note. The court, from the MCC, noted that it does not indicate that distribution of prepared food to people who have already cast their vote amounts to violation of the code or providing food to those who cast votes amounts to inducement.

Many tourist spots closed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As staffers go home to cast their votes in their respective constituencies, all hotels under the Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC) in Karnataka will remain closed on May 10, said Jagadeesha G., MD, KSTDC.

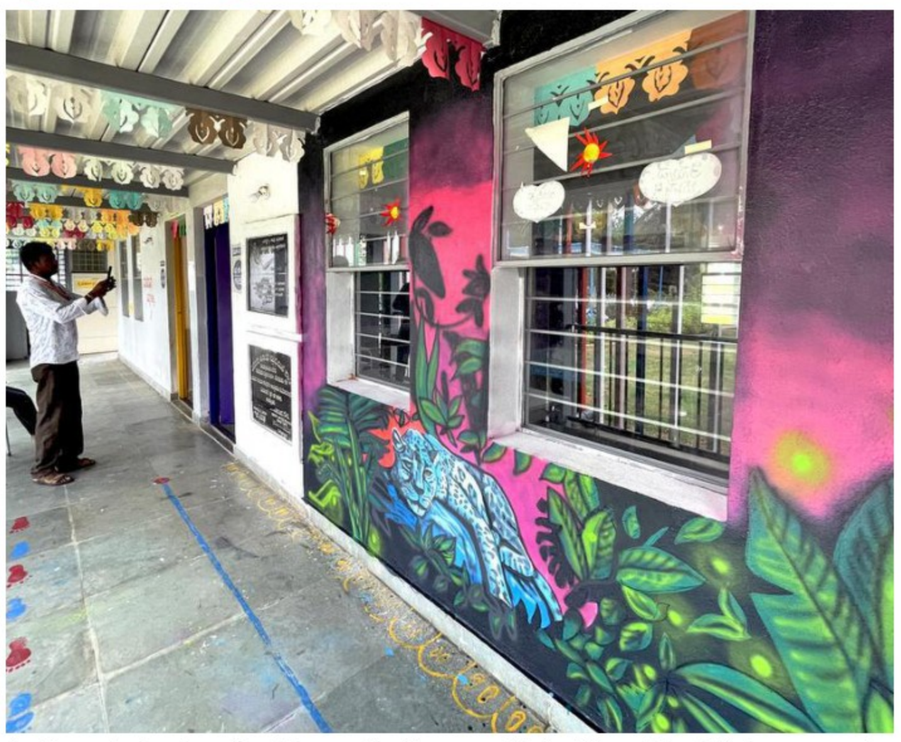
He also said the Chickaballapur district administration has shut down entry to tourists to Nandi Hills on Wednesday. Many tourist destinations and hospitality establishments would be closed on the day. It was announced that all units at Bannerghatta Biological Park, including the safari, zoo, and the butterfly park would also be closed on Wednesday. Kuppali Kavishaila, Jog in Sagar taluk, Tavarekoppa Tiger and Lion Zoo will also be closed.

CCB seizes ₹1.9 crore

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The CCB officials on Tuesday raided a pharma shop in Akkipete and seized ₹1.9 crore cash. They also arrested three persons linked to the unaccounted cash stored in violations of the Election Code of Conduct. The accused and the cash were handed over to I-T officials for investigation.

Eye-catching



A voting centre based on a forest theme at the Government Higher Primary School, Mutharayanagar, in Rajarajeshwarinagar Assembly constituency, in Bengaluru on Tuesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Police revise liquor ban order to allow hotels, pubs to serve food

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The city Police Commissioner's order to ban liquor as a preventive measure in the wake of elections has been revised to allow pubs and restaurants to serve food without liquor.

Earlier, the order had made it necessary for liquor shops, wines shops, bars, hotels, restaurants, tavern shops, or any other places serving liquor to shut down from 5 p.m. on May 8 to midnight of May 10 and also between 6 a.m. and 12 p.m. on May 13, the counting day. However, this affected the business of eateries which were serving food along with the liquor. Considering the economic point of view, the order was revised allowing hotels, pubs, bars, and restaurants to serve food without liquor.

Amrit Paul moves HC claiming he is under 'illegal detention'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Suspended IPS officer Amrit Paul, who is in judicial custody at present after his arrest in July 2022 in the PSI recruitment scam, has moved the High Court of Karnataka complaining that he is under "illegal detention".

His petition said that he is under "illegal detention" due to the illegality committed by the police in registering and probing the case against him, and for extension of his judicial custody from time to time by the trial courts without following the due process of law. A vacation Division Bench comprising Justice S.R. Krishna Kumar and Justice Venkatesh T. Naik, before whom the petition came up for hearing, adjourned further hearing on the petition till June 5 while ordering issue of notice to the CID, which is probing the scam.

The petition said that Mr. Paul's detention is 'unlawful' as both the complainant and the investigating officer is the same person. Mr. Paul, who is arraigned as accused number 35 in the chargesheet, has claimed that the trial courts have erred in extending his judicial custody without taking cognisance of offences against him for several months even after filling of chargesheet against him.

"In the absence of valid authority to detain, the petitioner's remand and detention is illegal and illegally must be set at naught forthwith," it was contended in the petition seeking an order from the court for his immediate release from prison by staying the orders passed by the trial courts extending his judicial custody.

INBRIEF

Final opportunity to register, apply online for CET-2023

Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) has facilitated the final opportunity for eligible candidates to get registered and apply online for CET-2023 scheduled to be held on May 20 and 21. Ramya S., executive director of KEA, said eligible candidates can register and submit applications online from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m from May 11 to 13, and pay the fees before 6 p.m. on May 13. Visit http://kea.kar.nic.in for more details.

Educators' meet held at Kristu Jayanti College

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of Kristu Jayanti College (Autonomous) organised the 8th All India Educator's Meet 2023 on 'Transcending School Education by Embracing Innovation' earlier this month. The meet was presided over by Rev. Dr. Augustine George, college principal. Shridhar Srivastava, Joint Director, NCERT, inaugurated the meet. The valedictory address was by Archbishop Peter Machado of Bangalore Archdiocese.

School gets hoax bomb threat e-mail

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Tension prevailed at Ebenezer International School at Hoskur in Electronics City for some time when the office noticed an e-mail threatening that a bomb had been planted on the premises.

The bomb disposal squad along with the Hebbagodi police rushed to the spot and cordoned off the area before evacuating the staff. After conducting a detailed search operation, it was termed a hoax. The police have obtained the details of the e-mail and initiated a probe to track down the person. According to the police, the email was sent around 9.10 a.m. and noticed by the administration staff 20 minutes later. The staff informed the management before alerting the police. Only the administration and house keeping staff were present at the school.

This school was among 25 others in and around Bengaluru that had received hoax bomb threat emails last year.

Interaction between specific enzyme and protein channel plays crucial role in mitochondrial function: Study

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in a new study have shown how interaction between a specific enzyme and protein channel plays a crucial role in proper mitochondrial function.

According to IISc, mitochondria are essential organelles and the power plants of the cell. They convert oxygen and nutrients into energy through a process called cellular respiration. "The proper functioning of mitochondria requires hundreds of proteins synthesised in the cytoplasm - the fluid found inside a cell - and transported into the mitochondria. Mitochondrial dysfunction brings about an energy crisis and probable cell death in high energy-consuming tissues such as the brain, heart, and skeletal muscle," said IISc.

IISc said researchers are working to understand the processes involved in mitochondrial protein production

It added that maintaining a balance in both the quality and quantity of these proteins is crucial to ensure proper mitochondrial function, thus preventing pathophysiology associated with mitochondrial diseases.

IISc said that Patrick D'Silva of Department of Biochemistry and his team are working to understand the processes involved in mitochondrial protein production, transport, and degradation using yeast as a model, which is necessary to uncover the proper functioning of mitochondria in all higher organisms.

"Each mitochondrion is enclosed by an inner and an outer membrane. Complex hydrophobic proteins that need to localise in the inner membrane enter the mitochondria through a protein channel called the TIM22 complex. A protein-degrading enzyme called Yme1 closely checks the number of proteins transported through the channel. If the gene coding for Yme1 is deleted, mitochondrial proteins accumulate in an unregulated manner within the cytoplasm, causing impairment in mitochondrial health and leading to overall growth defects," it added.

Mitochondrial dysfunction leads to many neurological and muscular diseases and disorders associated with aging and this study will help in understanding the development of these diseases in higher-order organisms.

CLASSIFIEDS MART

TO ADVERTISE VISIT
www.thehinduads.com
CALL: Bengaluru: 98455 29981 • 080-22071826
Mangaluru: 0824-2417575 • 2417580
Hubballi: 0836-2338600 • 2335700

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SASHU Kumar.D, S/o V.K. Devaraju, r/at No.30, G.9th Street, Jogupalya, Halasuru, Bangalore-560008 have changed my name as Sheshu Kumar.D vide affidavit dtd 09.05.2023 sworn before Notary S.Ramesh, Bluru

WE, THE undersigned Syed Nayeem Ahmed and Arbeena Khan parents of Syed Armain Nahar (Minor) (Old Name) residing at No.4/1, A-4, 18th Main, 18th Cross, Gowramma Layout, J P Nagar, Bengaluru-560078 Karnataka have changed the name of our minor son to Syed Armain Ahmed vide affidavit dated 09-05-2023 before Meer Hassan Notary Bengaluru.

I, Mir Aman Abbas, S/o Mir Mohammed Taqi, R/at No.22/1-10 S-3, Elegant Alpha Apartment, Alfred Street, Richmond Town, Bangalore - 560025, declare that, the two names, Mir Mohammed Taqi and Mir Mohammed Takhi, belongs to my father, one and the same person, vide affidavit dated 08-05-2023 before Notary Sivakumara.M. N, Bengaluru.

I, VIMAL Kumar, Father of Minor daughter Aradhaya Mishra D O B 18-04-2016, R/at No.04, Seeliamma Lane, 1st Cross Road, Murgeshpalya, Bangalore-560017 have changed her name from Aradhaya Mishra to Aradhya Mishra vide affidavit dated 09-04-2023 before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, B'luru.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, PRIYANKA Mishra, D/o Sushil Chandra Dubey, and Wife of Vimal Kumar, R/at No.04, Seeliamma Lane, 1st Cross Road, Murgeshpalya, Bangalore-560017 have changed my name from Priyanka Mishra to Priyanka Dubey vide affidavit dated 09-05-2023 before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, B'luru.

SITUATION VACANT

OVERSEAS

MEDICAL Device PRECISION Manufacturing Company in MALAYSIA Requires

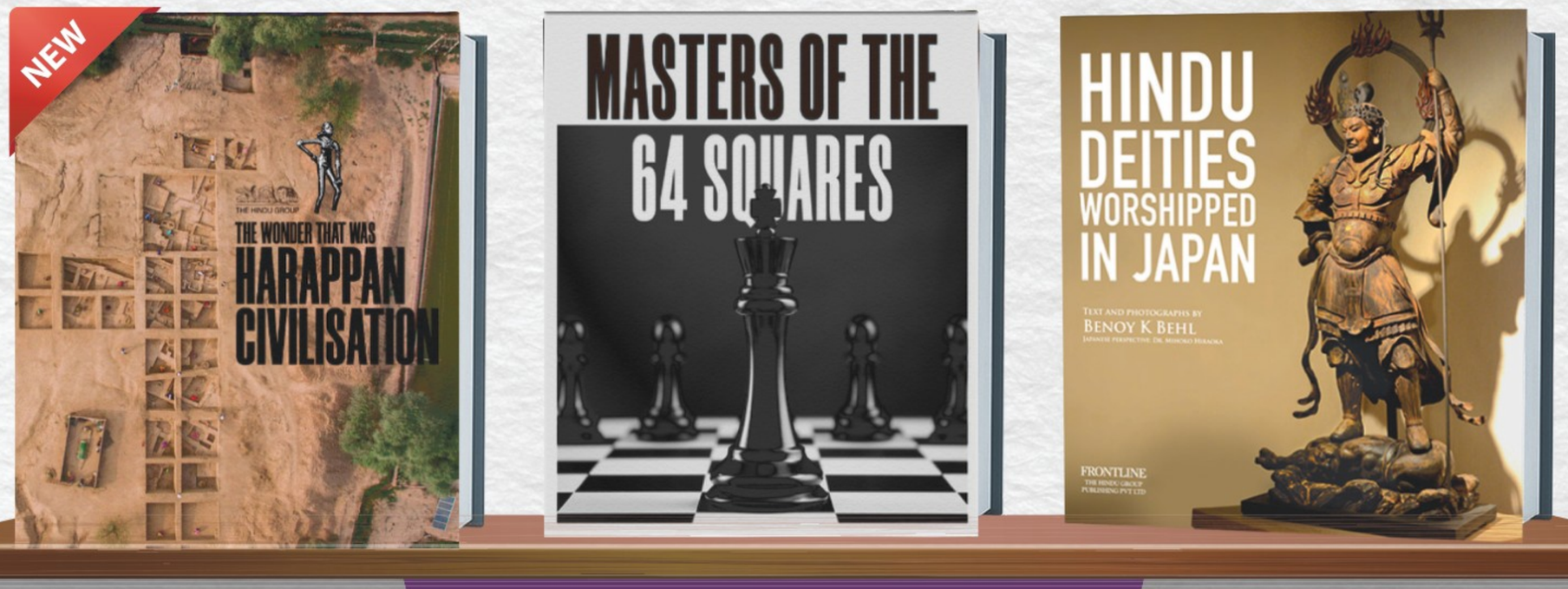
5 AXIS Milling PROGRAMMERS & SETTER - (10 no's)
(Preference EIDENHAIN controller with MASTERCAM or HYPERMILL software)
AUTO LATHE PROGRAMMERS & SETTER
(Preference Tsugami / Citizen / Tornos)

Age: Min 28 Years
Experience: & Min 8 Years
Education: Min Diploma in Mechanical Engineering

Please contact: Sreethi
9841249606 / 9841237515
admin@straitsortho.com.my / rpganesh77@gmail.com

THE HINDU GROUP

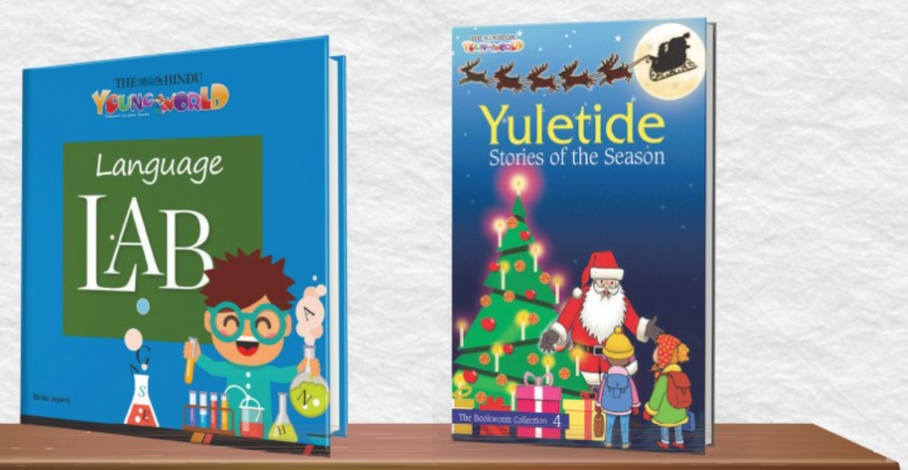
SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS
from
THE HINDU GROUP



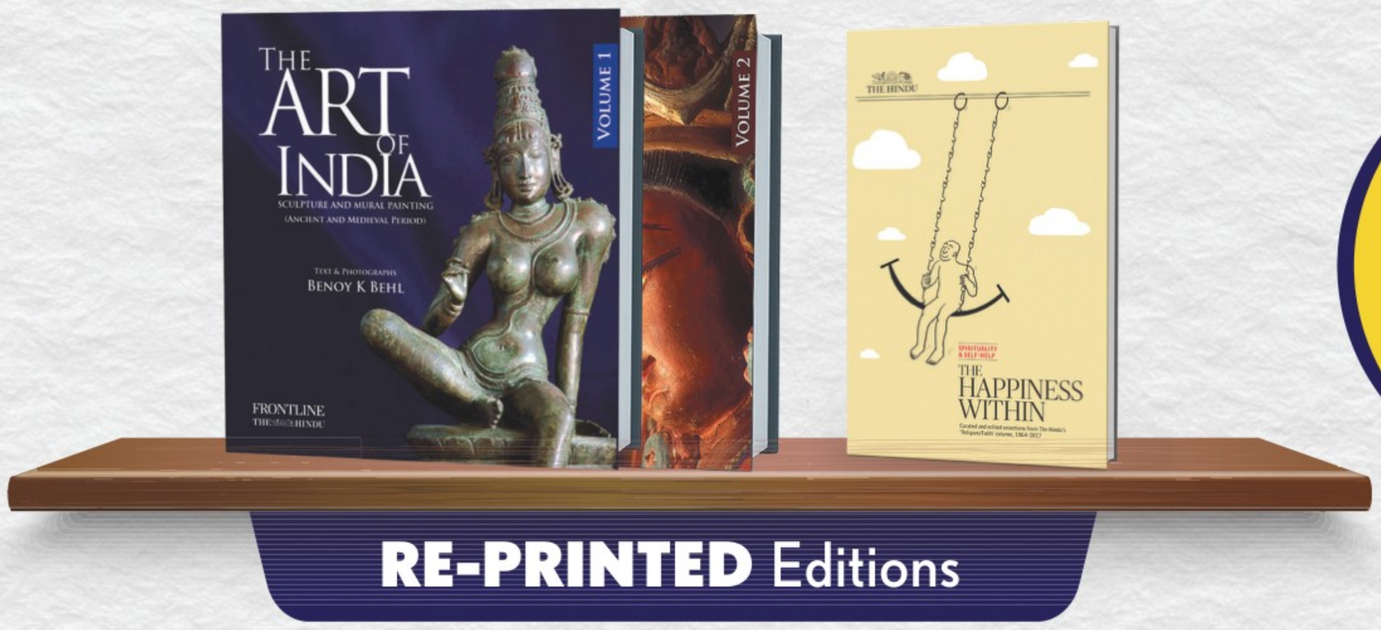
COFFEE TABLE Books

SHRINE Series

PREMIUM Series



KIDS Series



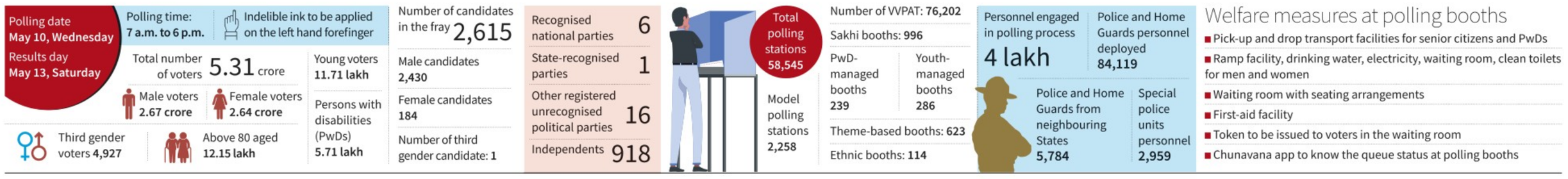
RE-PRINTED Editions

AVAILABLE NOW

* Shipping charges extra | conditions apply

BOOK YOUR COPY ONLINE

Visit: publications.thehindugroup.com/bookstore/
For bulk booking, e-mail: bookstore@thehindu.co.in
For any enquiries call: 1800 102 1878



Polling day dawns in State after pitched campaign by all parties

BJP is fighting to retain power beating anti-incumbency and a history of no ruling party getting re-elected for four decades, while a resurgent Congress has mounted a challenge; Janata Dal (Secular) is fighting to retain its identity in State politics

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

After a fortnight of high-decibel poll campaigns, Karnataka is set to vote on Wednesday to elect a new government. A crucial election for all three key parties, the BJP is fighting to retain power beating anti-incumbency and a history of no ruling party getting re-elected for nearly four decades, while a resurgent Congress has mounted a challenge. Janata Dal (Secular) is fighting to retain its identity in State politics.

Historical trend

Since the Janata Party retained power in 1985 elections, no other government has been able to repeat the feat.

As many as 5.31 crore electors, including 2.64 crore women and 4,927 third genders, will exercise their franchise to elect representatives to the 16th Legislative Assembly of Karnataka. A total of 2,615 candidates are in the fray across 224 constituencies and the results will be announced on May 13. All the three parties are also besieged by rebels remaining in the fray.

The election outcome in the only BJP-ruled State in the South is also being keenly watched nationally as it is expected to set the tone for the 2024 general elections besides elections to a host of State Assemblies, including Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana.

What parties bank on

The BJP, which seemed to be on the back foot in the run-up to the election with a perceived anti-incumbency, corruption charges, and an "anti-Lingayat" tag after the exit of Lingayat leaders Jagadish Shettar and Laxman Savadi, is hoping to harness the blitzkrieg campaign unleashed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah among the many Central leaders. The saffron party that in 2008 and 2018 came tantalisingly close to securing simple majority, but formed governments through engineered defections (Operation Kamala), is banking on support of communities that will benefit from changes brought to the reservation matrix at the end of its tenure, and the Hindutva plank in Coastal Karnataka.

The Congress with its five "guarantees" and a host of other welfare promises is hoping to make a comeback with Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi leading the campaign. It has gone aggressive on "40% commission" corruption charges against the government.

For AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge, the elections will also be crucial as it's the first big election faced by him after he took over, and Congress performance in his home State could reflect on him. While the Congress is hoping to improve on its performance in Kalyana Karnataka region due to Mr. Kharge's influence, it is hoping to cash on the Lingayat factor in the Kittur Karnataka and Central Karnataka region.

On the other hand, the regional outfit Janata Dal (Secular), which was the first off the block in poll campaigns, has pitchforked Pancharatna schemes, and former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy remained their star campaigner, visiting over 110 constituencies while his father and former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda - despite his advanced age and illness - lent support.

Campaign styles

The election also marked contrasting campaign styles of BJP and Congress. Mr. Modi pitched his "double engine sarkar" for development, mainly focusing on the Central schemes and attacking Congress and JD (S) but rarely speaking on the ruling BJP in the State. His connect with the people came through well-attended roadshows, especially the 36-km roadshow in Bengaluru. In contrast, Mr. Gandhi spoke extensively on the party's poll promises, price rise, local issues, candidates and more often was seen mingling with the commoner besides his rallies and roadshows that too attracted people. Even as the campaigns gathered pace, they also became vitriolic, diverting the attention from the people's issue. If the "Vishasarpa" remark of Mr. Kharge in the initial stage was used by the BJP to divert the campaign focus, the Congress's manifesto's mention of on Bajrang Dal brought life back to Hindutva campaign of the BJP during the last phase of electioneering. Mr. Modi chanted "Bajrang Bali Ki Jai" in almost every campaign after that.

Election Commission of India also came under sharp criticism by the Congress, which after being issued notice over an advertisement, accused it of providing unequal playing field to the opposition, ignoring complaints of violation of model code of conduct by BJP leaders.

Polling booth officials carrying EVM and VVPAT machines to their respective destinations in Bengaluru on Tuesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Get inspired by 103-year-old voter: CEO

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar on Tuesday appealed to over 5.3 crore electors to enthusiastically participate in the elections being held on Wednesday. He urged the young and urban electors in the IT capital of the country to take inspiration from the elderly voters like 103-year-old Mahadeva Mahaliga Mali and participate actively in the festival of democracy, defeating the prevalent trend of urban apathy in the State.

Seizures close to ₹380 crore

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The cumulative seizures, including cash, liquor, jewellery and freebies, among others, for violation of the model code of conduct reached ₹379.36 crore by Tuesday. A note from office of the Chief Electoral Officer on Tuesday said that Income tax officials seized ₹1.24 crore in Padmanabhanagar, Bengaluru, and ₹25.3 lakh at Hungund in Bagalkot.

BJP and Congress leaders invoke Lord Anjaneya on the eve of polling day

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Top leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Opposition Congress sought to invoke Lord Anjaneya on the eve of polling day and used it as much to make a political point.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai offered puja at Hanuman temple in his home town of Hubballi. Hanuman Chalisa was chanted even in the BJP State office in Bengaluru.

BJP leaders Shobha Karandlaje, Gopalaiah and Malavika Avinash offered puja at the Veeranjaneya temple in Mahalaxmi Layout of Bengaluru. After the puja, they targeted the Congress that has talked of a possible ban of organisations such as Bajrang Dal in its manifesto.

Referring to the Congress proposal to reverse the anti-cow slaughter and anti-conversion legislations, she accused the Opposition party of not respecting the religious sentiments of the majority community.

BJP workers would chant Hanuman Chalisa in various temples across Karnataka on the poll eve and seek strength from Lord Anjaneya to protect their religion, she said.

The Congress tried to counter the narrative of the BJP with a visit of its State president D.K. Shivakumar to the Anjaneya temple at Mysuru Bank Circle in Bengaluru. He said he had offered puja to Lord Anjaneya seeking strength to serve Karnataka, like him (Anjaneya. While offering their prayers, the Congress leaders placed the party guarantee cards at the feet of the deity.

Responding to the allegations of Ms. Karandlaje that the Congress poll manifesto was set to reverse various initiatives of the BJP regime, he said the Congress is committed to whatever had been declared in its manifesto, including withdrawal of National Education Policy.

Meanwhile, Mr. Shivakumar flew to Mysuru in a helicopter on Tuesday, and offered prayers at Chamundeshwari temple along with party stalwart Siddaramaiah and other Congress leaders. BJP took exception to Mr. Shivakumar's entry to Mysuru since he is not a voter there.

Most of the leaders cutting across party affiliations visited temples in their home districts or constituencies as the norm that the political leaders who are not registered voters of the constituency should leave the constituency has come into effect after the public campaign ended on Monday evening.

Union Minister Shobha Karandlaje with Minister K. Gopalaiah and other BJP leaders offering prayers during a visit to a temple of Lord Hanuman, in Bengaluru on Tuesday. PTI

Karnataka Congress president D.K. Shivakumar offering prayers at Anjaneya Swami temple in Bengaluru on Tuesday. ANI

Election symbols: Utensils, fruits, and vegetables are among popular choices

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Every election season ushers in a slew of symbols that range from the mundane to the unusual ones. This time, a large number of candidates have chosen household items and kitchen utensils as they feel these symbols are easy to remember for voters.

Apart from pressure cooker to pot, chapati roller, glass tumbler, kettle, mixie and gas cylinder to matchbox, fruits and vegetables, too, are a popular choice. These include pineapple, grapes, jackfruit, watermelon and ladyfinger.

Independent candidates and aspirants from registered political parties that are not recognised as national or State parties who were unable to register for popular symbols have chosen cot, almirah, sewing machine, helicopter, table, coconut farm, air conditioner, school bag, computer, laptop, diesel pump, petrol pump and the like. Some have opted for a pen nib with seven rays, phone charger, road roller, dish antenna, diamond, doorbell, baby walker, binocular, switchboard, walking stick, CCTV and tubelight.

Candidates in fray

In all, 2,613 candidates are in the fray for the May 10 Karnataka Assembly polls. These include 185 women candidates and one from the 'Others' category. While 224 candidates are from the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party, the Opposition Congress has fielded 223, and the Janata Dal (Secular) has fielded 207 candidates.

A total of 918 Independents and 685 from registered unrecognised political parties (RUPP) are in the fray. As many as 209 candidates are from the Aam Aadmi Party, 133 from the BSP, eight from the JDU, four from the CPI(M), and two from the NPP.

A senior official from the Election Commission said that the common symbols allotted to the candidates of RUPP are not allotted to any other candidates. However, the said symbol will be available for allotment as a free symbol to other Independent candidates in the constituencies where these parties do not set up candidates. Across India, 197 free symbols have been approved by the Election Commission of India (EC).

In the 2018 Assembly polls, 83 parties including 70 RUPPs had fielded their candidates. While around 20 new RUPPs emerged in the State since 2018, the ECI declared nine RUPPs as inactive in the State. In March, the ECI approved applications of six new RUPPs seeking concession in the allotment of common symbols to its candidates who would be fielded in the 2023 Karnataka Assembly polls.

These youngsters remain upset as they cannot vote

Hindu migrants from Bangladesh and Myanmar are hoping to get citizenship rights in India

Sharath S. Srivatsa
Kumar Buradikatti
BENGALURU/KALABURAGI

It has been three years since Hindu migrants from Bangladesh and Myanmar (formerly Burma) celebrated the passage of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), many hoping to get citizenship rights in India. The community remains disappointed now, as the stage is set for Karnataka to vote in the Assembly elections on Wednesday, but a number of possible first-time voters remain outside the electoral rolls.

Community leaders estimate that about 3,000 youngsters, who became eligible to exercise their franchise in the last three years, have failed to get into the electoral rolls from the four Bangla and one Burmese camps in Sindhanur taluk in Raichur district, some 450 km from Bengaluru due to existing laws.

"Earlier we did not have any problems getting government documents such as Aadhaar, caste and income certificates. Obtaining voter ID was possible with citizenship certificate of one of the parents," community leader Prosen Raptan told *The Hindu*. He, however, claimed that problems intensified after CAA, as officials started insisting on citizenship certificates of both parents, and the rules for providing citizenship under the CAA that could provide clarity is yet to be formed.

About 3,000 youngsters from five camps for such migrants, who became eligible to exercise their franchise in the last three years, have failed to get into the electoral rolls, in Sindhanur taluk in Raichur district. FILE PHOTO

These camps came up in the early 1970s for Bangaldeshi Hindus, who were escaping persecution before the 1971 Indo-Pak war, and the Burmese Hindus, who left Burma as refugees. The government gave land as part of rehabilitation. Most of these families have come from Khulna, Jessore, Dhaka and Rampura districts in Bangladesh. While the five camps together have over 10,000 voters, that could be a deciding factor in the Sindhanur Assembly constituency, the new voter enrolment of the third generation youngsters has hit a roadblock.

A hitch to the passage of youngsters into the electoral rolls has been the citizenship documents. While about 5,000 members of 932 families that were rehabilitated by the Union government received citizenship, members of about 250 to 300 families that followed to the camp later have not got them. The population in these camps have now swollen to over 25,000.

"Over the last 40 to 50 years, families with citizenship have established marital ties with those without citizenship. Now, with officers asking for citizenship certificates of both parents, the youngsters are not getting the voting rights," Mr. Raptan explained. "We have brought to the notice of political parties and higher officials alike but the situation has not improved."

Admitting to the problem, Deputy Commissioner and District Election Officer of Raichur Chandrashekar Nayak said specific cut-off dates to determine the immigrants arrival in the country and documents required for citizenship. "They have arrived in different periods. Those who are born after 1992 have to show documents of any one of their parents since it is understood that their parents arrived in 1971. But those who are born after 2002 will have to produce documents of both parents to establish the citizenship of the parents." Mr. Nayak, who said the number of such cases could be far less than 3,000, added, "Assistant Commissioners and tahsildars, who have judicial powers, scrutinised the applications and documents for inclusion of new names from these camps. The documents were also cross checked with alternative sources before a final decision was taken."

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Chaos and uproar: Police fire tear gas to disperse supporters of Imran Khan, protesting against the arrest of their leader, in Peshawar, Pakistan on May 9. AP

Imran Khan's fluctuating politics has put Pakistan at the crossroads

From the military's perspective, Mr. Khan's refusal to bow out without generating chaos is interfering with efforts to restore Pakistan's economy and its relationships abroad, which have been adversely impacted by his demagoguery

Farahnaz Ispahani

Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan was arrested on May 9 outside the Islamabad High Court by the National Accountability Bureau. He has been held on multiple charges, including those of terrorism. In this article, Farahnaz Ispahani, talks about how Mr. Khan has gained popularity among the masses and what kind of government he envisages when he comes back to power.

The gun attack that injured Pakistan's former Prime Minister, Imran Khan, may have created a wave of sympathy and added to his burgeoning popularity. But it could also derail his campaign for early elections through a long march on Islamabad. An injured Mr. Khan might not be able to lead protest rallies of his supporters and, in his absence, his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) might not attract sufficiently large crowds.

Tragedy averted

Pakistan averted another tragedy in its long and bloody history of assassinated and hanged Prime Ministers when Imran Khan survived the attack. This tragic history, which began with the assassination of Pakistan's first Prime Minister, Liaquat Ali Khan, in Rawalpindi in 1951, includes the judicial murder by hanging of former President and Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto in 1979, and the assassination of his daughter, former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, in 2007.

While averting the ultimate calamity that has befallen several civilian Pakistani leaders before him, Mr. Khan is still hoping to make history by successfully challenging the country's military establishment. By refusing to bow out after being removed from office through a parliamentary vote of no confidence, and waiting for elections scheduled next year, he is challenging the all-powerful armed forces to either allow the democratic process to take its course unimpeded or directly impose martial law.

Since his removal from power, Mr. Khan has consistently upped the ante in his effort against the establishment's ability to influence politics from behind the scenes. His narrative, not backed by any evidence, is that his removal from office was the result of a conspiracy involving the United States and the military leadership. This conspiracy theory has found resonance with the traditionally pro-military right-wing elements of Pakistani society.

Politics of grievance

Most of Mr. Khan's supporters feel aggrieved that their 'patriotic' leader has been removed from office, and under Mr. Khan's influence, they blame the Army Chief and certain specific generals for his removal. They dislike the country's two traditional democratic parties – the Pakistan Muslim League (PML) and the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) – and were not averse to military machinations of the past directed against those parties.

In some ways, Mr. Khan and his supporters represent the attitude of some supporters of Brazil's right-wing former President, Jair Bolsonaro, who lost his bid for re-election recently. Hardline Bolsonaro supporters took to the streets to demand that the military keep him as President because his left-wing rival was not patriotic enough. Mr. Khan, too, has been effectively calling on the army to directly interfere in the democratic process by forcing early elections, which he thinks he can win because of his current popularity.

Most political analysts agree that the Pakistan army built up Mr. Khan's political standing and brought him to power in 2018 under democratic guise. He was expected to provide civilian cover for policies favoured by the military. For almost three years, Mr. Khan and the military leadership both asserted that they were "on one page". But now it is a unique moment in Pakistan's history where the creator and the creation are at loggerheads.

An unusual press conference

Mr. Khan has made comments to the effect that he would prefer martial law to the current political dispensation comprising his political rivals. His remarks followed the unprecedented press conference on October 27 by the head of the Inter-Services Intelligence agency (ISI), Lt. General Nadeem Anjum, and the Director General for Inter-Services Public Relations, Lt. General Babar Iftikhar. The chief aim of the presser appeared to be to deny all involvement in the killing of pro-Imran leaning journalist Arshad Sharif in Kenya.

The generals sought to assert that the Pakistan Army Chief, General Qamar Javed Bajwa, and the army as an institution had decided to become apolitical and to expose Mr. Khan's two-faced approach to his relationship with the military.

Mr. Khan privately continues to ask for help from the top brass while publicly condemning them.

From the military's perspective, Mr. Khan's refusal to bow out without generating chaos is interfering with efforts to restore Pakistan's economy and its relationships abroad, which have been adversely impacted by his demagoguery. According to a World Bank report released in October, Pakistan's economy is expected to grow by only 2% in the fiscal year ending in June 2023.

The causes of economic decline include the recent catastrophic floods, high inflation and a difficult global environment. But the political uncertainty created by Mr. Khan's agitation has also played a significant role. The World Bank report also warns that poverty in the areas worst hit by the floods will worsen and that the national poverty rate may increase by 2.5-4 percentage points.

This harsh economic reality has brought great pressure on the current Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and the coalition government he leads. Ironically, it has refreshed the popularity of Mr. Khan which had started to dim after three and a half years of rule. Mr. Khan's treatment of the media, his autocratic rule, and the allegations of corruption which recently enabled his disqualification by the Election Commission of Pakistan stopped being the story once he was removed from office and took to the streets.

Riding on populism

Mr. Khan's populism combines Islamist and nationalist slogans with a civilian strongman image. His autocratic style and his changing political positions have affirmed the fact he has never been much of a democrat. He appeals to Pakistan's unemployed youth who face difficult times and to serving and retired soldiers and government servants who are upset at Pakistan's declining international standing. But his appeal is similar to that of other populist strongmen in countries facing decline.

His success, if it comes, will not strengthen constitutional rule, civilian supremacy or democracy. It will only result in the emergence of an ultra-nationalist, neo-fascist era under a civilian rather than a military leader. Mr. Khan's threats to set Pakistan afire do not reflect a willingness to work within constitutional limitations. Pakistan's traditional democratic parties, with all their flaws, understand the need for compromise. Mr. Khan does not.

The leaders of the PML and the PPP have all experienced personal consequences of standing up to the establishment. They have survived the constant undermining of democratic institutions, such as the parliament, the constitution and the supreme court. They have had to fight for free and fair elections and endured hangings, assassinations, jail terms, torture and exile. Mr. Khan and the PTI have yet to encounter such suffering.

Mr. Khan was recently disqualified from membership of the current term of the National Assembly by a five-member panel of the Election Commission of Pakistan. He has been injured in a shooting incident, possibly an assassination attempt, that has yet to be fully investigated. But his confrontation with the establishment is only just beginning.

Farahnaz Ispahani is a former member of the National Assembly of Pakistan

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

On May 10, 1994, Nelson Mandela was sworn in as South Africa's first Black President. Here is a quiz on the revolutionary leader

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1
What was the system of institutionalised racial segregation that existed in South Africa from 1948 to the early 1990s?

QUESTION 2
In 1956, there was a trial in Johannesburg in which 156 people, including Mandela, were arrested in a raid. The main trial lasted until 1961 when all of the defendants were found not guilty. During the trials, this man left the country and was exiled. What were they accused of? Identify the South African anti-apartheid activist who was exiled.

QUESTION 3
Which trial in South Africa between 1963 and 1964 led to the imprisonment of Mandela? He served the sentence for 27 years.

QUESTION 4
What is the name of the three-hour speech given by Mandela at the trial that sentenced him to prison?

QUESTION 5
46664 was a series of AIDS benefit concerts played in honour of Mandela by musicians between 2003 and 2008. What is the significance of 46664?

Visual question:
Identify this actor who played Mandela in a film. What is the film called? What is the film based on?

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This king was the first monarch to broadcast to the Empire at Christmas. **Ans: George V**
2. This queen who ruled for five years is known by the name of a popular cocktail. **Ans: Mary 1 or 'Bloody Mary'**
3. When Queen Anne was succeeded by George I in 1714, this reason led to more than 50 other claimants being rejected. **Ans: They were Catholics and therefore ineligible to rule. The Act of Settlement passed in 1701 was designed to secure Protestant succession to the throne**
4. This UNESCO site was built as a demonstration of power by William the Conqueror. **Ans: Tower of London**
5. He was the first king of Great Britain. **Ans: James I**
6. This monarch commissioned the Gold State Coach which is used by the British royal family. **Ans: George III**
Visual: This monarch was immortalised by Shakespeare and was known as a brilliant general. **Ans: Henry V**
Early Birds: Abhishek Yadav| Advait Mishra

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Mr. V. D. Gnanapragasam wants to know the meaning of 'School of Hard Knocks'."

" 'Knock' has several meanings. One of them is 'misfortune', 'setback'. 'School of Hard Knocks' means 'School of Adversity', 'School of Suffering'. 'He received training at the School of Hard Knocks' means he suffered a great deal."

"Mr. Abhay Jain wants to know the difference between 'spoonerism' and 'malapropism'."

" 'Malapropism' is a 'ludicrous misuse of word, especially in mistake for one resembling it'. 'Spoonerism' is 'an accidental or deliberate transposition of initial letters etc. of two or more words'. When a person uses a word that somewhat resembles the word he/she wants to use and the effect is rather amusing, the result is a malapropism. 'A nice derangement of epitaphs' for 'a nice arrangement of epithets'. 'He is a progeny of learning' for 'He is a prodigy of learning'. 'As headstrong as an allegory on the banks of the Nile' for 'As headstrong as an alligator on the banks of the Nile'. Mrs. Malaprop is a character in Richard Sheridan's play *The Rivals*. Mrs. Malaprop was noted for her amusing blunders in the use of words. The examples given above are taken from *The Rivals*. 'Malapropism' is from the French phrase 'mal a propos', 'inappropriate'."

"Mr. A. B. Vajpayee, Ranchi, wants to know the difference between 'a painting of my father' and 'a painting of my father's'."

" 'A painting of my father' is a 'portrait of my father'. It is a painting done by someone of 'my father'. 'A painting of my father's' means 'a painting done by my father'."

"Under the caption, 'How manyeth are you?', Tom McArthur, Editor, English Today, a quarterly published by Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, writes in its issue for October, 1987:

How manyeth are you?

Professor K. Subrahmanian has a weekly column in *The Hindu*, called 'Know Your English'. He has been writing this column since 1982 and receives some 500 letters a month from readers about aspects of English and its usage. From time to time, queries relate to specifically Indian usages, as with the following:

'Several readers would like to know whether the following question can be asked when one wants to know the order of a person's birth in his family: "How manyeth son are you to your parents?" It is interesting but not English. There is no way in which you can ask such a question in English. We can ask such a question in our language as we are interested in the order. The English don't seem to be interested in the order and there is no direct question to elicit this information. If readers have bright ideas on how this question can be framed in English, they can forward their suggestions.' Although World Standard English does not allow for such a question, it would seem that the inquirers had already provided the evidence that Indian English has found a way to frame it."

Published in The Hindu on December 15, 1987

Word of the day

Chide:
censure severely or angrily

Synonyms: trounce, lambaste, rag, dress down, scold, bawl out, berate, have words, take to task, rebuke, remonstrate, reprimand, lecture, chew out

Usage: *Her mother chided her for not sharing her toys with other children.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/chidepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ʧaɪd/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

KSRTC forced to run 500 BMTC buses on long-distance routes

KSRTC had provided 4,100 buses for poll duty; BMTC buses operated to Davangere, Yadgir, Chitradurga, Raichur, Ballari

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Curtailment of bus services operated by the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) resulted in chaos at the Majestic bus-stand on Tuesday evening. Passengers were seen making desperate attempts to get on the buses and had heated arguments with staff of the corporation for not running adequate buses.

To clear the rush, the KSRTC was forced to run city buses of the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) on intra-State long-distance routes. People were seen standing and travelling.

The KSRTC provided 4,100 buses for election duty, which was more than half the fleet size of the KSRTC. An official of the KSRTC said that over 500 buses of the BMTC were operated on long-distance routes such as Davangere, Yadgir, Chitradurga, Bagalkot, Raichur, and Ballari.

People leave for their native places ahead of voting day, at Majestic bus-stand on Tuesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Sumanagala R., a native of Davangere, said: "I did not expect a shortage of buses. It is very sad that people are struggling to get transportation facilities to cast their votes. The authorities concerned should have made proper arrangements anticipating the demand." However, those who booked tickets did not face much problem.

Another passenger said: "There was a heavy rush at the terminal which operates buses to northern parts of the State. Passengers were arguing with the staff of KSRTC for not providing enough buses. At the counter too, the staff faced the ire of passengers." An official of KSRTC said: "To cast their votes, passengers turned up in large numbers at Majestic in the afternoon to leave for their native places. In the evening, the numbers further increased. For the benefit of passengers, we operated BMTC buses on long-distance routes. Providing more buses for election duty resulted in a scarcity of buses, and we had shared the information well in advance."

Railway stations, too, saw increased footfall on Tuesday. A senior official of the South Western Railway (SWR) said there was increased demand for unreserved tickets.

"On Tuesday, trains scheduled to Mysuru and Hassan side saw more demand. For the benefit of passengers, we opened extra counters at railway stations. The number of passengers travelling to Hubballi, Kalaburagi, and other destinations in the northern parts of the State was high. To clear the rush, we operated extra trains on certain intra-State routes."

BMTC conductor killed in freak accident

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A BMTC bus conductor was killed after being crushed to death by a bus in Yelahanka New Town on Tuesday. Somashekharaiah, 59, was standing behind the bus waiting for passengers to board at the BMTC bus stop at 4th stage. The bus suddenly started moving backwards and crushed Somshekharaiah to death. The driver escaped after abandoning the bus.

People living abroad come to cast their vote

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

People from Karnataka who are living abroad are flying into the country this time to perform their voting duty. Those who are in Canada, Turkey, Indonesia, the UAE, and Singapore have come down to the State to cast their votes on Wednesday.

Kishore Chandra Prasad is a 70-year-old doctor who is now in Dubai. This is the third time he will be travelling to Mangaluru to vote. "From the time I was in college until now, I have never missed an election. I had come down to vote during the two elections since 2014," he said.

Many such visitors took to social media to announce that they had travelled for election while also declaring their allegiance to leaders and parties. "Bengaluru, Here I come to vote!" tweeted Karthik Ganesh Bhat, who travelled from Vancouver in Canada via Japan.

His post garnered a lot of appreciation for his commitment to voting. "This is absolutely inspiring. Your commitment for India is exemplary," a user commented. While a few are coming in specifically for voting, some others have integrated the dates with their annual visit to the country.

"I fly to the country once every one or two years to visit my family. This time I planned my leaves so that I can be here to vote. Voting is a privilege we should not miss," said Namitha. K., who travelled from Indonesia to Mysuru.

The NRIs opined that there should be something similar to postal ballot services so that they get to vote in every election without spending money.

"I tell my patients to go to India and vote, but they are reluctant as they would have to incur expenditure. There are a lot of Indians here and a facility to vote from here would be helpful for them," Dr. Prasad said.

Poll officials face challenges of network issues, wild animals in remote areas

R. Krishna Kumar
MYSURU

The remote and hilly areas of Chamarajanagar with dense forest coverage pose logistic and other challenges for the smooth conduct of the Assembly elections.

The presence of wild animals near polling stations and lack of mobile networks in remote villages are also other issues that are unique to the region.

Hence, in the run-up to the elections, Deputy Commissioner D.S. Ramesh discussed the various challenges with his staff and in anticipation of the problems took steps to resolve them for the smooth conduct of the polls.

A meeting was conducted with the service providers and it transpired that about 142 polling stations in the district did not receive signals. But after assessing the findings, the District Tribal Welfare Department was instructed to conduct a field check and the number of polling stations in the network shadow area – where no mobile signals are received – was whittled down to 16.

"While there are two such polling stations in Kollegal – at Puranipodu and Dasanahundi, there are 12 such polling stations in Hanur, including Dattahalli, Changadi, Tulsikere, Parasalnatha, Indiganath, and Doddaane, and the remaining two are in Chamarajanagar," said B. Manjula, District Tribal Welfare Officer. The communication network is imperative to not only give an update of the polling in progress, including the voting percentage every hour, but also essential to convey any other information such as technical snags in the EVMs, the safety of polling staff, or other development, she added.

Uphill task: Conducting elections is a challenge in remote tribal hamlets of Chamarajanagar district due to the hilly and forest terrain and lack of easy access. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Walkie-talkies

As there was no feasibility of establishing mobile towers in the regions, the district administration decided to harness the Police Department's wireless communication service. All the polling stations will now be provided with walkie-talkies by the Police Department to enable there was no communication gap during the polling.

The Forest Department will also deploy its staff in polling stations coming under network shadow areas and be equipped with walkie-talkies as a standby. "Arrangements are in place to ensure that the Police and the Forest department staff communicate to the headquarters periodically as per the EC's mandate," said Ms. Manjula.

Though the communication issue was resolved, there is the problem of wild animals in many of the regions. Chamarajanagar has tribal hamlets and village enclosures in B.R. Tiger Reserve, M.M. Hills Wildlife Sanctuary, and Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary. There are nearly 450 to 500 elephants in the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary alone and some of the villages where the polling stations are located are in the elephant zone. Hence the safety of the voters and the polling staff is also imperative and the Forest Department has been roped in to provide with security.

"We have been instructed to keep a watch on elephant movements, especially in places such as Shaagya and Madiwala," said Nandesh, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary. Every polling station in the wildlife zone would have armed staff to deal with any emergency, he added.

Incidentally, villages such as Kokkabare, Doddaane, and Tokkere cannot be easily reached in the absence of good roads given the uneven and steep terrain. Here the Forest Department has been providing last-mile connectivity to villagers by operating vehicles along forest roads.

22 children rescued

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The District Child Protection Officer along with the Talaghattapura police on Monday raided an institute and rescued 22 children who were housed illegally on the pretext of rescue and rehabilitation.

Based on a tip-off, a team of officials raided Sri Sai Sneha Foundation, Raghuvanahalli in Talaghattapura, and found the children aged between one and 17. The management gave evasive replies and tried to hoodwink the officials stating that they were running a day care and the children were from slums, said officials. Asha H.K., District Child Protection official, submitted a report online to the Child Welfare Committee and while escorting the children to the State home, the staff created a ruckus and prevented the officials from carrying out the procedure.

RAMALLAH

Israel raising obstacles to Palestinian health care: WHO

AFP

Israel is posing obstacles to Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and the blockaded Gaza Strip seeking medical care, the WHO said in a report. The report found a slew of instances from 2019 to 2021 in which security restrictions delayed or prevented Palestinians in the two separate territories from receiving medical attention. AFP

GAZA CITY

Three Islamic Jihad leaders among 13 dead in Israeli strikes on Gaza

AP

Israeli air strikes on Gaza killed three Islamic Jihad militant group leaders and 10 others, including several children, on Tuesday, officials in the Hamas-controlled Palestinian territory said. Islamic Jihad vowed to "avenge" the deaths that happened during a pre-dawn raid. AFP

BANGKOK

Myanmar military used 'vacuum bomb' in village air strike: HRW

AP

Myanmar junta used a "vacuum bomb" on an opposition village that killed dozens of people in a likely war crime last month, the Human Rights Watch said. Thermobaric bombs, used in the air strike on the Pazi Gyi village in Sagaing, are also known as "vacuum bombs" and are more powerful than conventional munitions. AFP

CHASIV YAR

AFP journalist Arman Soldin killed by rocket fire in eastern Ukraine

AFP

AFP's Ukraine video coordinator Arman Soldin was killed on Tuesday by rocket fire near Chasiv Yar in eastern Ukraine. The attack happened at around 4:30 pm (1900 IMT) on the outskirts of the town close to Bakhmut.The 32-year-old Soldin, a French national, was killed when a rocket struck close to where he was lying. AFP

Pakistan and China agree to extend CPEC to Afghanistan

Press Trust of India
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan, China and Afghanistan have agreed to forge closer economic ties by extending the Beijing-backed China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to Afghanistan to fully harness the country's potential as a hub for regional connectivity.

Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, his Chinese counterpart Qin Gang and Afghanistan's Taliban-appointed acting Foreign Minister Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi held the 5th China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Foreign Ministers' Dialogue, where they also underlined the need to prevent any group from using their territories for terror activities against any nation.

West is waging a war on Russia, says Putin

Russian President's remarks were made at a World War II event and came hours after Moscow fired its latest barrage of missiles at Ukraine

Associated Press

Russian President Vladimir Putin declared on Tuesday that the West has unleashed "a real war" against Moscow, reprising a familiar refrain at scaled-down Victory Day celebrations that may reflect the toll the Ukraine conflict is taking on his forces.

Mr. Putin's remarks came just hours after Moscow fired its latest barrage of cruise missiles at targets in Ukraine, which Russia invaded more than 14 months ago. Ukrainian authorities said air defenses destroyed 23 of 25 missiles launched.

"Today civilisation is once again at a decisive turning point," Mr. Putin said at the annual commemorations celebrating the defeat of Nazi Germany in World War II. "A real war has been unleashed against our motherland."

Spirited speech: Vladimir Putin gives a speech during the Victory Day military parade at Red Square in Moscow on Tuesday. AFP

Some 8,000 troops took part in the parade in Moscow's Red Square on Tuesday – the lowest number since 2008. Even the procession in 2020, the year of the COVID-19 pandemic, featured some 13,000 soldiers, and last year, 11,000 troops took part. There was no fly-over of military jets, and the event lasted less than the usual hour.

U.K. police 'regret' anti-monarchy demonstrators' arrest in London

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

The Metropolitan Police has expressed "regret" over the arrest of six anti-monarchy protesters on May 6 morning, hours before King Charles III was due to arrive in Westminster Abby for his coronation. The police said it used a law (the Public Order Act) passed just last week, which criminalises the use of devices that allow protesters to "lock on" to each other or to certain structures, to make the arrests. Among those detained on Saturday was Graham Smith, the chief executive of anti-monarchy group, Republic.

"We regret that those six people arrested were unable to join the wider group of protesters in Trafalgar Square and elsewhere on the procession route," the 'Met' said in a statement, in which it confirmed that no further action would be taken against the six.

Pre-emptive move: Among the 64 arrests, 52 were over concerns that the coronation was going to be disrupted. REUTERS

"Those arrested stated the items would be used to secure their placards, and the investigation has been unable to prove intent to use them to lock on and disrupt the event," the Met said.

Mr Smith told the BBC that his group had been speaking to the police for four months about the details of their protest. The police statement said that at the time of the arrest it was not clear that at least one of those arrested had been engaging with the police. One man in the group of six was arrested for possessing "a knife/pointed article".

Police officers visited Mr. Smith on Monday evening to tender an apology, as per Mr. Smith. "I said for the record I won't accept the apology. We have a lot of questions to answer and we will be taking action," he told the PA News Agency. A total of 64 arrests were made on the day of the coronation. Of these, 52 were over concerns that the coronation was going to be disrupted, the police said.

U.K. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, on Tuesday, said people had the right to "protest freely , but peacefully " while backing the Met over the arrests. "They make the decisions on the ground in the way they see fit," he said.

Sri Lanka's SC clears path to legalise homosexuality

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

The Supreme Court of Sri Lanka has ruled that a Bill seeking to decriminalise homosexuality is "not inconsistent with the Constitution", clearing the way for a Parliamentary debate and vote on the subject.

"The Supreme Court is of the opinion that the Bill as a whole or as any provision thereof is not inconsistent with the Constitution," Parliamentary Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena announced on Tuesday morning.

The determination pertains to a recent case challenging a ruling party legislator's Private Member's Bill that seeks to amend Sri Lanka's penal code, and decriminalise homosexuality. The Bill, gazetted in March, effectively states that sexual orientation of a person shall no longer be a punishable offence, and any sexual conduct between two consenting adults of the same sex, in public or private, shall no longer be an offence.

Three persons, all Rajapaksa loyalists, challenged the Bill that brought some promise to Sri Lanka's queer community who have been fighting for equality for decades. However, their petition was swiftly countered by nearly a dozen others – LGBTQIA+ activists and allies – who intervened in the matter with compelling arguments in support of amending Sri Lanka's century-old, colonial era laws on same-sex relationships.

Common cause: Sri Lanka's queer groups held one of the largest pride rallies during last year's mass protests in Colombo. FILE PHOTO

Reference to 377

In its ruling, Sri Lanka's apex court cited the landmark Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India case in India, in which all consensual sex among adults, including those in same-sex relationships, was decriminalised as the Court historically struck down Section 377. The Sri Lankan Supreme Court drew attention to the 2018 judgment of Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, then a Supreme Court Judge, that said: "Gays and lesbians, transgenders and bisexuals continue to be denied a truly equal citizenship seven decades after Independence. The law has imposed upon them a morality which is an anachronism. Their entitlement should be as equal participants in a society governed by the morality of the Constitution."

Activists see the Sri Lankan Supreme Court's determination as a significant step in the queer community's decades-long struggle for equal rights, while pointing to the next big test in Parliament.

Iran executes more than 10 persons per week, says UN

Agence France-Presse
GENEVA

UN human rights chief Volker Turk said on Tuesday that Iran has executed a "frighteningly" high number of people this year, rising to more than ten per week on average.

At least 209 people were executed in the country since January 1, primarily for drug-related offences, but a United Nations statement said the actual number is likely much higher.

"On average so far this year, over ten persons are put to death each week in Iran, making it one of the world's highest executors," Mr. Turk said.

"At this rate, Iran is worryingly on the same track as last year when around 580 people were reportedly executed," he added, calling this track record "abominable".

Iran on Monday hanged two men on charges of spreading blasphemy on social media, prompting U.S. condemnation and accusations from Amnesty International that the Islamic republic has reached a "new low" in a spree of executions.

China expels Canada envoy in tit-for-tat move

Associated Press
BEIJING

China announced the expulsion of a Canadian diplomat on Tuesday in retaliation for Ottawa ordering a Chinese consular official to leave the country over the alleged threats he made against a Canadian lawmaker and his family.

The Foreign Ministry said China was deploying a "reciprocal countermeasure to Canada's unscrupulous move," which it said it "firmly opposes."

It said Jennnifer Lynn Lalonde, the top Canadian diplomat in the business hub of Shanghai, was asked to leave by May 13.

The Canadian Embassy in Beijing had no immediate comment on the expulsion order.

"We understand there is retaliation but we will not be intimidated," Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said after the Chinese move. "We will continue to do everything necessary to keep Canadians protected from foreign interference."

Mr. Trudeau's government said it is expelling a Chinese diplomat whom Canada's spy agency alleged was involved in a plot to intimidate an Opposition lawmaker and his relatives in Hong Kong.

FRONTLINE
LEADING THE DEBATE SINCE 1984
THE HINDU GROUP

RULE OF TERROR

Now on stands

When a **"strongman"** emerges as leader, promising to rid societies of gangsters and mafias, then even brazen vigilantism gets public approval. In this issue, Frontline explores why gaining such legitimacy cannot be construed as gaining legality.

Conflict in Khartoum.
The two top generals in Sudan are at war with each other, unleashing what is threatening to become one of the worst humanitarian crises in history.

Kumar Gandharva centenary.
Remembering the genius of Shivaputra Siddaramayya Komkali, known to the world of Hindustani music as Kumar Gandharva, with a playlist of some of his most captivating renditions across genres.

To subscribe, visit
bit.ly/3PA3zeU
or scan QR code

Two held

The Hindu Bureau
KALABURAGI

Kalaburagi Deputy Commissioner Yeshwanth Gurukar caught two BJP activists who had switched off the street lights at Sangamesh Colony and were distributing money among voters, in Gulbarga South constituency on Monday.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, MAY. 10	
RISE 05:56	SET 18:36
RISE 23:26	SET 09:58
THURSDAY, MAY. 11	
RISE 05:56	SET 18:37
RISE 00:00	SET 11:02
FRIDAY, MAY. 12	
RISE 05:55	SET 18:37
RISE 00:21	SET 12:04

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	33	26
Mysuru	33	24
Bengaluru	33	21

Bengaluru Today
30°C The weather will be slight warm and humid. Spell of moderate rain and thundershower with gusty winds to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C Morning will be pleasant with mist and haze. Day will be slight warm and humid. Few spells of moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2023
All rights reserved.

THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

iPhone maker Foxconn buys huge site at Devanahalli

The 13 million-square-ft acquisition was announced in a statement to London Stock Exchange

Agence France-Presse
BENGALURU

Taiwanese electronics giant Foxconn has bought a huge tract of land on the outskirts of Bengaluru, the key Apple supplier said in a filing on Tuesday, as it looks to diversify production away from China.

Also known by its official name, Hon Hai Precision Industry, Foxconn is the world's biggest contract electronics manufacturer and a principal assembler of Apple iPhones.

Both companies are seeking to shift manufacturing away from China after strict COVID-19 policies, a bout of industrial unrest and ongoing diplomatic tensions with the United States hurt production. The 1.2 million-square-metre (13 million-square-ft) acquisition in Devanahalli, near the Bengaluru airport, was announced in a statement to the London Stock Exchange. It said that subsidiary Foxconn Hon Hai Technology India Mega Development was paying three billion rupees ($37 million) for the site, the size of more than 50 Manhattan city blocks.

Another Foxconn unit was acquiring land use rights to a 480,000-square-metre site in Vietnam's Nghe An province, it added.

1 lakh jobs to be created

Chief minister Basavaraj Bommai said in March that Apple would "soon" manufacture iPhones at a new plant that would create "about 1,00,000 jobs".

Bloomberg News reported that month that Foxconn was planning to invest $700 million in a new factory in Karnataka.

Foxconn chairman Young Liu visited the state then and also met with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who has urged foreign firms to manufacture goods in the South Asian nation.

Foxconn has manufactured Apple handsets in India since 2019 at its plant in the southern state of Tamil Nadu. The company is expected to break ground on a new facility in Telangana state next week, local media reported.

Taiwanese suppliers

Two other Taiwanese suppliers, Wistron and Pegatron, also manufacture and assemble Apple devices in India. Apple has been making its own push into India, and chief executive Tim Cook last month opened its first two retail stores in the world's most populous country.

The California-based firm is betting big on the nation of 1.4 billion people -- home to the second-highest number of smartphone users in the world, after China.

HC notice to govt. on shifting college

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday ordered issue of notice to the State government on a plea of residents of Kanakuppe village, Hebbur taluk in Tumakuru district, against shifting of a government pre-university college to another place. A vacation Division Bench comprising Justice S.R. Krishna Kumar and Justice Venkatesh Naik T. passed the order on the PIL petition filed by Yathish C.S and five others from Kanakuppe village.

The petitioners sought a direction to the government to continue the PU college in their village. They challenged the Government Order of March 21, 2023, shifting the college from Kanakuppe village to Hebbur.

The petitioners complained that the authorities have illegally taken the "consent" of minor students studying in I PU classes for shifting the college, without taking consent from their parents.

It was contended in the petition that the decision to shift the college citing lack of students in Kanakuppe village was not correct as a government-aided PU college was already functioning in Hebbur.

Rain likely in DK, Uttara Kannada

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

The IMD said that heavy rain is likely to occur over Dakshina Kannada and Uttara Kannada on Wednesday. Thunderstorm with rain accompanied by lightning is likely to occur at isolated places over Udupi and Dakshina Kannada on the same day. Thunderstorm with rain accompanied by lightning is likely to occur at isolated places over all the districts of coastal Karnataka on May 11.

Your feedback will keep us Cleaner, Sharper and Bolder

Call our toll-free number
1800 102 1878
Or write to us at
customercare@thehindu.co.in

Scan the QR code to register your feedback

THE HINDU businessline.
FRONTLINE SPORTSTAR THE HINDU Young world THE HINDU

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF,
RURAL WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION,
JAL "O" PARIMAL BHAWAN, UNIT-V, BHUBANESWAR-751001, ODISHA
Tel: 0674-2395734, FAX: 0674-2394946, e-mail: cerwssodisha@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING BIDS (NIB)
No. 5213 / Date: 09/05/2023

The Engineer-in-Chief, RWSS,(Water Supply) Odisha, Bhubaneswar, on behalf of the Governor of Odisha is engaged in the execution, operation & maintenance of water supply projects to the villages of different districts in the State of Odisha & as part of this endeavour, Government of Odisha has decided to undertake the work as mentioned below (the "Project") in double cover system in ONLINE MODE, & has decided to carry out the bid process for selection of the eligible Contractors to whom the projects under the package may be awarded eventually for construction as well as operation and maintenance for a period of 05 years.

Package No.	Name of work	Bid Identification No.	Indicative project cost (Rs. in Crore)	Availability of Bid document for online Bidding	
				From	To
Pkg-I	Execution of Retrofitting of PWS from 40LPCD to 70LPCD to Kakatpur and Adj. villages in Kakatpur & Katakana GPs Under Kakatpur Block under Puri District Including 05 years O&M.	EIC / RWSS/9/ 23-24	10.14	17.00 hrs of 15.05.2023	17.00 hrs of 15.06.2023

Name & address of officer inviting Bid : Engineer-in-Chief, RWSS Jal "O" Parimal Bhawan, Unit-V, Bhubaneswar. Ph : 0674-2395734 / 0674-2531533. e-mail : cerwssodisha@gmail.com

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal http://tendersodisha.gov.in

O-124:

Engineer-in-Chief, RWSS

OIPR-25003/11/0005/2324

ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL
ASC CENTRE & COLLEGE
AGRAM – POST, BANGALORE-560007
Phone: 080 25550677 Website: www.apsasc.edu.in

Tender Notice

Sealed Tenders are invited for **Construction of Over Head Roof at first floor of Adm Block of APS ASC C & C**. Call for Quotations (also uploaded on website for reference) to be collected from school office after submission of DD in favour APS ASC Centre & College for ₹100/- from 10 to 16 May 2023 (1000hrs to 1300hrs). Last date to submit filled tender form is 17 May 2023 at 1130 AM.

Presiding Officer
For School Management

KALABURAGI MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Fax No.08472/260776, Phone: 08472/ 278675, Email Id: itstaff_ulb_gulbarga@yahoo.com

No: KMP/SWM2.0/2022-23 Date : 06.05.2023

E-PROCUREMENT PUBLICATION

Sub : Kalaburagi City Corporation is inviting tenders for Processing and disposal of Legacy waste in Udanoor at Kalaburagi City Corporation as per Central Pollution Board guidlines.
1) Name of Work : Processing and disposal of Legacy waste in Udanoor at Kalaburagi City Corporation as per Central Pollution Board guidelines, 2) Estimated Cost : **Rs. 1602.30 Lakhs** 3) Fund Head : SBM 2.0 Fund, 4) Pre Bid meeting Date : **31-05-2023 , 11.00 AM,** 5) Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders : **07/06/2023 16:00:00,** 6) Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid : **08/06/2023 16:30:00,** 7) Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid: **15/06/2023 17:00:00,** 8) For More information : Assistant Executive Engineer (Environment), City Corporation Kalaburagi, 9) Website : **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Deputy Commissioner (Dev)
City Corporation Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/01/MC&A/2023-24

GOVERMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
Public Works (North) Division, Pune
New Administrative Building, First Floor, Pune -411 001.
e-mail- northpune.ee@mahapwd.gov.in Phone No. 020126123305
SHORT PERIOD E-TEN1ER NOTICE NO.6 FOR 2023-2024 (Online)

The Executive Engineer, Public Works (North) Division, Pune - 411 001 (Telephone No. 020- 26123305) invites tender in SBD based on item rates for following work through e-tendering process from contractors who fulfills terms and condinion mentioned in bid document.

Bid document can be download from website https://mahatenders.gov.in Right to reject any or all online bid of work without assigning any reasons thereof is reserved by competent authority. Conditional Tender will not be accepted.

Sr. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost Rs. Lakh
1	A) Improvements to Poud Kolvan Lonavala Road, MDR-26, Km 16/400 to 41/300, Tal. Mayal, Dist. Pune. B) Improvements to MDR 26 to Javan Shllimb Ghusalkhamb to SH 110 Road, Km 0/000 to 20/500, Tal. Maval, Dist. Pune (Part- Km 0/000 to Km 19/080), C) Improvements to Pune Khadakwasala Donje Khanapur Ranjane Pabe to SH 106 Road, SH 133 Tal-Velhe, Dist-Pune, km 14/200 to 45/500 (Part- Km 13/800 to Km 44/920 & Khadakwasla Diversion Km 0/000 to 1/060) (Balance Work) (PN-24 HAM Project Balance Work)	Rs. 2710.00 lakh

Short Period E-Tender Time Table

1	E-tender Document Sale Start & End Date and Time	10.05.2023 from 10.00 hrs.	24.05.2023 upto 18.15 hrs
2	Place, Date & Titne of Pre-bid Meeting	Office of the Chief Engineer, P.W. Region, Central Building, Pune Technical Point on dt. 23.05.2023 at 12.00 hrs	
3	Bid Submission Start 14 End date, Time	10.05.2023 from 10.00 hrs.	24.05.2023 upto 18.15 hrs
4	Place, Date & Time of Bid Opening of Technical & Financial Bid	Dt. 26.05.2023 at 11.00 hrs. in the Office of the Superintending Engineer, P.W. Circle, Pune (If Possible)	

All information above e-tender are available in the following website.
1. http:// mahapwd.gov.in (only Tender Notice)
2. https://mahatenders.gov.in
(Any Change in tender notice will be infromed on the web sites)
3. Notice Board of Executive Engineer, P.W.North Division, Pune
(Note - Tenderers Bidding Capacity shall be ascertained as per Post Qualification Criteria)

Sd/-
(R. Y .Patil)
Executive Engineer,
Public Work (North) Division, Pune 411 001.

DGIPR/2023-2024-606

SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA
NETAJI SUBHAS SOUTHERN CENTRE,
BENGALURU

ADVERTISEMENT

Sports Authority of India, Netaji Subhas Southern Centre, Bengaluru invites applications from eligible, qualified and motivated candidates for the following posts purely on contract basis.

S. No	POST	NUMBER OF POST	CATEGORY
1	Lady Warden	01	UR
2	YOUNG PROFESSIONAL (ARM)	02	UR-01 EWS-01
3	JUNIOR CONSULTANT (ACCOUNTS/ FINANCE)	01	UR

The details of recruitment along with application form are available at SAI website i.e; **http://sportsauthorityofIndia.nic.in/** and **http://www.saibengaluru.com/**

SAI reserves all the rights to withdraw this advertisement at any time without assigning any reason. For any recruitment related query, e-mail to **rcbengaluru.sai@gov.in** & **jobs.saibangalore@gmail.com.**

Sd/-
Regional Director Incharge
Sports Authority of India,
NSSC, Bengaluru

Directorate of Geology
Department of Mines & Geology, Government of Jharkhand
2nd Floor, Engineer's Hostel-2, Dhurwa, Ranchi - 834004,
Email: dir-geology@jharkhandmail.gov.in

Notice No-01/2023-24
Notice Inviting Tender
"Invitation of Bid for grant of Mining Lease"

In exercise of the power conferred by Section 10B of the Mines and Minerals (Development And Regulation) Act, 1957 and in accordance with Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 (As Amended from time to time) notified thereunder, Government of Jharkhand has identified Iron Ore block for the purpose of grant of Mining Lease in West Singhbhum District, Jharkhand, through electronic auction and hereby invites bids in digital format only, from eligible bidders.Terms and conditions, deadlines etc. for participating in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document. The Model Tender Document for the Mineral Block and Mineral Block Summary are available free of cost in electronic form and can be downloaded from website of MSTC [http://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mlcl/index.jsp] for the purpose of information only. Timelines, notification, updates and other details of the e-auction process are available on the website of MSTC and the website of Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand http://www.jharkhand.gov.in/mines-geology.

The details of the mineral block are summarized below

Block	Concession Area Ha.	Resource (Metric Tonnes)	Last Date of sale of Tender Document on MSTC website	Last Date of submission of technical bid & IPO on MSTC website	Date of Opening of Tender
MERALGARA-BARABALJORI IRON ORE BLOCK	115.220	640319.08	06.06.2023	26.06.2023	27.06.2023

Those interested and eligible for bidding can participate in the bidding only after online purchase of the Tender Document on payment of the tender fee of INR **4,95,600.00 (Indian Rupees Four Lakh Ninety Five Thousand Six Hundred only)** which is inclusive of GST INR 75600.00 @18% (non-refundable), from the website of e-auction platform provider. GST is payable under the Reverse Charge Mechanism. After purchase of the Tender Document, eligible bidders can register themselves on the above mentioned website. On successful registration, eligible bidder will obtain Login ID and password necessary for participation in the e-auction process.

Sd/- Director Geology
Department of Mines & Geology
Govt. of Jharkhand

PR 296777 Mines and Geology (23-24)_D

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

Smt.SARASWATHI KUPPUSWAMY
W/o Rtn. P G KUPPUSWAMY
(Ex-Wavin, Netherlands)

Attained Acharyan Thiruvadi on May 9th 2023 early hours in her sleep
Last rites on 11th May (Thursday) at her residence #22/65, 3rd Main Road, Kasturiba Ngr, Adyar, Chennai-20.
Cremation at Besant Nagar at 4.00pm

Deeply mourned by P G Kuppuswamy, Kavita & Srivatsan, Anand & Arti, Grandchildren, Siblings and host of Relatives & Friends
+91-9840070528, +91-9841283299

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES

To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
Bengaluru: 98455 29981, 080 - 22071826
Hubballi: 0836 - 2338600
Mangaluru: 0824 - 2417575, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Rate for Karnataka:
Minimum: Rs. 320/- for 2 lines.
Extra line: Rs. 160/-
B/W Display: Rs. 95/- per sq.cm;
Colour Display: Rs. 105/- per sq.cm
For Placing Advertisements Online log on to www.thehinduads.com

DONATE EYES - GIFT SIGHT

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public hereby informs that one of my client/s intends to purchase all the piece and parcel of the **Vacant site bearing No.07, Assessment no.164, BBMP Khatha No.DAW68/PR/222/22-23, Situated at 3rd 'C' Cross, J.C.Nagar, Geleyara Balaga Extension Site formed in the Eastern portion of the assessment No.164, Laggere Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Ward No.68, measuring East to West -42 1/2 feet and North to South -32 feet, in all measuring 1360 Square feet, Presently comes under BBMP Limit,** thereon which is more fully described in the Schedule hereunder written and hereinafter referred to as Schedule Property from **Sri. K.S.Krishna S/o late Sri. Seetharamaiah, Residing at Kilara Village, Amrutthur Hobli, Kunigal Taluk, Tumkur District.**

Any person/s firm(s), Societies, institution (s) (Corporate or Otherwise) claiming to have any right, title, interest, benefit, claim or demand in, or to, the schedule property and /or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, gift, lease, tenancy, License, assignment, mortgage, charge, lien, trust, family arrangement/settlement, encumbrance, inheritance, bequest, easement, possession, maintenance, development, rights order / decree judgment of any court, agreement understanding or otherwise howsoever to the schedule property is required to intimate the same, together with true copies of all documentary proof in support thereof, to the undersigned, at the address given below, **within fifteen days (15)** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, our client will proceed ahead to purchase schedule property without any reference to any such claim and the same, if any, shall be considered as waived and/or abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the vacant site bearing No.07, assessment No.164, BBMP Khatha No.DAW68/PR/222/22-23, Situated at 3rd Cross, J.C.Nagar, Geleyara Balaga Extension, Site formed in the eastern Portion of the assessment No.164, Laggere Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Ward No.68, measuring East to West -42 1/2 feet and North to South-32 feet, in all measuring 1360 Square feet, comes under BBMP limit, **Bounded on :- East by :** Road, **West by :** Remaining Property of the same Assessment No, **North by :** Remaining Property of the same Assessment No, **South by :** Bhagyamma Property.

AJITH PRASAD JAIN, Advocate.
No.371/52, 2nd Floor, Dr.Rajkumar Road, 6th Block (Opp:Mayura Hotel), Rajajinagar, Bangalore - 560010.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that my client has intent to purchase property bearing **SITE No.25, measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 Feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq.feet & SITE No.63, measuring East to West 45 Feet and North to South 30 Feet, totally measuring 1350 Sq.feet,** Comprised in a portion of Property bearing Converted **Sy.No.23/3 & Sy.No.23/4,** present portion of BBMP **Katha Nos.313/Sy No.23/3 & 23/4 & 314/Sy No.23/3 & 23/4, respectively {vide conversion order bearing No.ALN (N) SR:12/05-06, dated 21-4-2005, in respect of Sy No. 23/3 and bearing No.ALN(N) SR:45/05-06}, Situated at NAGAWARA VILLAGE,** Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore now comes under the administrative jurisdiction of BBMP Ward No.23, Bangalore, and both bounded on the:-

East by : 30 Feet Road;
West by : 30 Feet Road;
North by : 30 Feet Road;
South by : Site No.26 & 62;

from its present Owners **Mr. N.RAMACHANDRAPPA S/o. Late Sri.Pattadi Nagappa, Mrs. ANJINAMMA W/o. Late Sri.Krishnappa and others.**

Person/s having any right over the said property may lodge his/her/their objections/claims with documentary evidence within **10 days** from this day to the undersigned. In the absence of any claims within the above said period, it shall be deemed that there are no such claims or if there are any claims and they have not been made, it shall be deemed to have been waived.

P. NAGAMUNI REDDY,
Advocate, SNN Associates,
No.248, 2nd Floor, 10th Main, 1st Block, 100 Feet Road, HRBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar, Bengaluru 560043, Land Mark Near Horamavu Signal, Above Canara Bank & HDFC ATM.
M 9945159840 / 7675968699

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that I intend on purchasing the property mentioned in the schedule hereto.

All persons claiming an interest in the said property or any part thereof by way of sale, mortgage, charge, attachment or otherwise are hereby required to make the same known to the undersigned ***within 7 days*** from the date of this notice failing which I shall proceed to complete the sale transaction without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, shall be considered as waived.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property in the form of **vacant site, presently bearing Municipal No.4044, old BDA Site No.4044, assigned with PID No.56-84-4044, situated at Dobhighat, (Banashankari II Stage), BSK 2nd Stage, Bengaluru and measuring East** to **West- (15.70 + 20.20) /2 mtrs** and **North to South- measuring (8.50 + 21.30) /2 mtrs** and bounded on the :

East by: Property No.4057/A
West by: Road
North by : Property No.4045
South by : Road

Sd/-

Mrs. Preethi Goldeena.J
W/o Mr.Gabriel Nikhil Bhasker, aged 32 years, R/a #156, 7th Cross, 4th Lane, Teachers Colony, 1st Stage, Kumaraswamy Layout, Bengaluru 560 078
Date: 09.05.2023 Place: Bengaluru

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our client **SRI.KANAPARTHI PREM KUMAR. S/o.Kanaparthi Subbarayudu** and **Sri K Subbarayadu S/O Kanaparty Chennai,** Both are Residing at Flat No 105, Sri Siva Sai Vue Grande, Bellandur Outer Ring Road, Bangalore South 560103. Is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **SRI.JOEL DOMINIC LOBO S/o late Sri A J Lobo @ Anthony Joseph Lobo.** AND **SMT. ELIJA LOBO., Wife of late Sri A J Lobo @ Anthony Joseph Lobo.** Both residing at Erehalli Road, Behind Pais Compound, Chikmagalur, Karnataka.577101. If Anyone Person/s, firm/ company / institution / organization or establishment, is/are having any right, title, interest, claim, share, or objections in respect of schedule property hereby required / request to intimate in writing to the undersigned advocate or may contact the undersigned advocate with documentary proof, within **7 days** hereof, and Any claim made after the stipulated period, will not be considered, it will be presumed that there is/are no claims and will not be valid, same shall be null & void, such person/s shall be considered as waived and not binding on my Client and my Client will proceed with completion of sale transaction by way of execution Sale Deed in respect of the schedule property in/on the name of my Client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of land and sheet roofed house with civic amenities constructed in **Site No.64,** HASB Khatha No.430/2, BBMP No.1159/83/4/64, situated at **Doddanekkundi Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, earlier Bangalore South Taluk,** now within Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike limits, Bangalore, measuring East to West: 40 feet North to South: 30 feet in all measuring **1200 square feet** and bounded:
East by : 25 feet wide Road, West by : Site No.67, North by : Site No.63, South by : Site No.65.

B. Shubhakar BA LL.B.,
Advocate
#601, Old Police Station Road, Next to Srinivasa poly clinic, Krishnarajapuram Bangalore 560036
Mobile: + 91 9448950488,
email : shubhakar14@gmail.com

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION,
BHANDARA (Phone No. 07184-252412)
E-TENDER NOTICE No. 1 of 2023-24

Online e- tenders in B-1 forms for following works are invited by the Executive Engineer, Public Works Division. Bhandara from the registeredcontractors. Tender document may be downloaded at Govt. Website **http://mahatenders.gov.in.** Rights to accept or reject the tender without assigning any reason reserve with Executive Engineer, Public Works Division. Bhandara

Sr. No.	Name of Works	Estt. cost. (Rs. in Lakhs)	Earnest money (Rs. in Lakhs)	Cost of E- Tender documents	Class of Contractor
1	Construction Of Cement Concrete Road Bhandara By Pass SH- 355B From Km 2/200 To 4/200 In Tahsil And Dist. Bhandara	661.15	3.31	3540.00	Registered/ Unregistered

Note:-
1. Other terms & condition can be seen in the bidding documents.
2. The details tender notice can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the e-tendering portal **http://mahatenders.gov.in**
3. The bidder shall submit the Hard Copy of Tender Document (Technical & Financial Envelope) in sealed envelope with in 72 Hrs. on the last date of submission at the office of tender opening authority.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Public Works Division
Bhandara

DGIPR/2023-2024/583

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

INBRIEF

HC upholds tribunal ruling favouring RIL in gas sale case

The Delhi High Court has upheld the ruling of an arbitration panel favouring RIL and its foreign partners in a dispute over gas migration from fields operated by state-owned ONGC, a court order shows. The oil ministry had approached the Delhi HC after an international arbitration panel rejected its $1.55 billion fine on Reliance and its partners for selling gas that migrated from ONGC's fields in the east coast Krishna-Godavari basin to their block in the same area. REUTERS

Nexus Select Trust REIT IPO subscribed 28% on day one

The initial public offering (IPO) of Nexus Select Trust, the first REIT backed by rent yielding retail real estate assets, was subscribed 28% on the first day of subscription on Tuesday. The ₹3,200 crore share sale received bids for 5,00,49,000 units against 17,60,00,100 units on offer. The Real Estate Investment Trust is sponsored by Blackstone. Non institutional investors got subscribed 42% and qualified institutional buyers received 17% subscription, as per an update. PTI

Cognizant to train 25,000 staff in Google Cloud AI

Cognizant will train some 25,000 professionals on Google Cloud AI technologies at Cognizant Google Cloud AI University expected to be opened soon. The university would offer a variety of courses, including introductory courses on AI fundamentals and advanced courses on Google Cloud's solutions Cognizant and Google Cloud announced the expansion of their partnership to accelerate the adoption of AI by businesses across the world.

Fitch cuts India GDP growth forecast for this fiscal to 6%

Rating firm trims outlook from 6.2% projected earlier citing headwinds from elevated inflation, interest rates and subdued global demand; sees India as one of the fastest-growing sovereigns

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

Fitch Ratings has lowered its 2023-24 GDP growth forecast for India to 6%, from 6.2%, citing headwinds from elevated inflation and interest rates along with subdued global demand, with the expansion seen quickening to 6.7% in 2024-25, as against the 6.9% projected earlier.

The rating firm also reaffirmed India's long-term foreign-currency issuer default rating at 'BBB-' with a stable outlook. A 'BBB' issuer default rating indicates that expectations of default risk are currently low and payment capacity to meet financial commitments is considered adequate, but adverse business or economic conditions are more likely to impair this capacity.

Headwinds ahead

Credit rating company expects a confluence of headwinds including elevated inflation and interest rates to crimp demand

- Growth to ease from 7% seen for FY23, as pent-up domestic demand fades and global demand falters
- Firm reaffirms India's long-term foreign currency issuer default rating at 'BBB-' with a stable outlook
- Headline inflation seen averaging 5.8% in FY24, slowing from 6.7% last fiscal

While India will be one of the fastest-growing rated sovereigns, bolstered by "resilient investment prospects", Fitch said this year's growth will ease from the 7% expected for FY23, as pent-up domestic demand fades along with faltering global demand.

"We forecast headline inflation to decline, but remain near the upper end of the Reserve Bank of India's 2%-6% target band, averaging 5.8% in FY24 from 6.7% last year. Core inflation pressure appears to be abating, falling to 5.7% in March," it noted.

Adani to buy back $130 mn bonds to boost investor trust

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Billionaire Gautam Adani's group on Tuesday said it will prepay $130 million of debt as it looks to boost investor confidence post being targeted by a U.S. short seller.

Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone, the ports company of the Adani Group, had last month floated a tender to buy back as much as $130 million of its July 2024 bonds and similar amounts in each of the next four as it looked to regain investor confidence by showing that its liquidity position is comfortable.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	61,761	-0.004
US Dollar	82.06	-0.34
Gold	61,300	1.15
Brent oil	75.62	-1.65

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	1896.10	8.60
Adani Ports	690.50	5.40
Apollo Hosp	4593.05	-32.05
Asian Paints	3034.80	15.35
Axis Bank	888.25	9.80
Bajaj Auto	4528.85	-20.40
Bajaj Finserv	1408.70	3.90
Bajaj Finance	6552.25	-105.70
Bharti Airtel	793.60	-0.15
BPCL	367.05	-0.65
Britannia Ind	4595.15	-3.25
Cipla	939.20	5.90
Coal India	236.35	3.50
Divis Lab	3383.20	96.90
Dr Reddys Lab	4933.25	26.15
Eicher Motors	3381.90	-11.00
Grasim Ind	1764.90	-13.45
HCL Tech	1079.00	3.25
HDFC	2750.05	14.45
HDFC Bank	1644.50	0.05
HDFC Life	552.05	2.50
Hero MotoCorp	2591.55	15.20
Hindalco	440.35	-4.70
Hind Unilever	2515.80	-0.50
ICICI Bank	934.40	-3.50
IndusInd Bank	1140.60	14.25
Infosys	1270.70	5.10
ITC	423.80	-7.65
JSW Steel	724.60	-8.20
Kotak Bank	1954.30	-4.55
L&T	2374.35	8.95
M&M	1245.45	13.65
Maruti Suzuki	9111.55	35.30
NestleIndia	21971.35	-11.90
NTPC	176.00	-1.05
ONGC	165.25	0.25
PowerGrid Corp	243.40	-1.35
Reliance Ind	2479.55	7.65
SBI Life	1183.15	0.80
State Bank	573.50	-10.10
Sun Pharma	957.45	-4.40
TataConsumerProduct	789.00	0.10
Tata Motors	503.65	3.15
Tata Steel	109.55	0.00
TCS	3283.25	32.65
Tech Mahindra	1047.80	4.45
Titan	2748.40	-2.85
UltraTech Cement	7716.25	-19.20
UPL	694.40	-21.00
Wipro	382.30	1.95

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on May 09

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	81.84	82.16
Euro	89.83	90.19
British Pound	103.24	103.65
Japanese Yen (100)	60.70	60.94
Chinese Yuan	11.82	11.87
Swiss Franc	91.69	92.10
Singapore Dollar	61.71	61.95
Canadian Dollar	61.15	61.42
Malaysian Ringitt	18.39	18.47
Australian Dollar	55.38	55.60

Source:Indian Bank

'Go First insolvency filing to stretch supply'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Wadia Group airline Go First's insolvency filing will further tighten supply in the domestic sector, according to ICICI Securities.

Stating the engine issue had resulted in the grounding of 50% of the airline's fleet, the brokerage said Go First is no longer in a position to continue to meet its financial obligations.

"This further tightens the supply in Indian domestic aviation market which we believe was already tight till at least 2025 from the ongoing replacement cycle of IndiGo and Air India, internationalisation of IndiGo and supply shortage in global OEM supply chain," the authors of the report wrote.

The brokerage said ticket prices were likely to stay higher on account of the airlines' need to compensate for COVID losses.

More lessors of Go First seek aircraft deregistration

Reuters
NEW DELHI

More lessors of Go First asked India's aviation regulator on Tuesday to deregister at least three aircraft of the cash-strapped company which filed for bankruptcy last week, according to notices on the regulator's website.

This comes a day after leasing firms Sky High XCV Leasing Company, ACG Aircraft Leasing, SFV Aircraft Holdings and others submitted requests to take back at least 13 planes.

Go First lenders said to favour airline's plea

Forum Gandhi
NEW DELHI

Go First's lenders are reportedly in favour of the insolvency petition filed by the firm, as they consider its potential for survival as being better than that of Jet Airways.

Sources said the promoters assured Go First would continue to operate if an interim moratorium is given. The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) verdict on the airline's plea is expected on Wednesday.

However, the Travel Agents' Association of India is against the petition being accepted. "When Jet Airways was grounded, only 8% of the total dues owed to the travel agents was recovered," said Jyoti Mayal, President of TAAI.

Different view

But bankers have a different view. "Go First is financially better. We are in favour of the NCLT admitting insolvency petition. This way, the assets, especially the aircraft, will be preserved," sources said.

The airline's total liabilities to all creditors stood at ₹11,463 crore.

(The writer is with the businessline)

IBM, NASA model to gauge climate change

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

IBM in collaboration with NASA unveiled a new geospatial foundation model designed to convert satellite data into high-resolution maps of floods, fires, and other landscape changes to reveal the planet's past and hint at its future.

This geospatial offering is expected to be available for preview in the second half of this year. Potential applications of this platform would include helping estimate climate-related risks to crops, buildings, and other infrastructure, valuing and monitoring forests for carbon-offset programmes, and developing predictive models to help enterprises create strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Arvind Krishna, IBM Chairman and CEO said foundation models make deploying AI significantly more scalable, affordable and efficient.

This model would be part of IBM's watsonx.ai, a next generation enterprise studio for AI builders to train, test, tune and deploy both traditional machine learning and new-generation AI capabilities.

'Rise in premium cost worries life plan clients'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The rise in premium amount for life insurance is the biggest concern for consumers, and affordability has become a more pressing issue, according to a survey.

The report identifies three major barriers to life insurance purchasing decisions – behavioural biases/perceived need, economic constraints/affordability and perceived difficulty in purchase. The survey was conducted among 3,300 life insurance policyholders across India by Hansa Research. Another key finding is 22% of clients cited 'company does not keep in touch' as a potential reason for leaving.

Hatsun Agro Q4 net profit declines 16% on inflation

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Dairy major Hatsun Agro Product Ltd.'s (HAPL) standalone net profit for the quarter ended March contracted 16% from the year-earlier period to ₹25 crore due to inflation.

Revenue from operations grew 10% to ₹1,789 crore and cost of materials consumed increased by 18% to ₹1,298 crore, HAPL said in a regulatory filing.

"FY23 was a challenging period for the dairy sector due to inflation and low yield," said MD R.G. Chandramogan. "The price increase could not be passed on as it would take time to change the packaging," he said. According to Mr. Chandramogan, FY23 was a "non-normalcy period."

Mr. Chandramogan said that a major expenditure was incurred in the last two fiscals on enhancing production of ice cream, milk and curd at various facilities. This fiscal would see a small amount being spent on balancing equipment, he added.

Shanthi Gears Q4 net jumps 60% on higher sales volumes

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Shanthi Gears Ltd.'s (SGL) standalone net profit for the quarter ended March jumped 60% from the year-earlier period to ₹19 crore due to increased sales volumes.

Revenue from operations increased 19% to ₹123 crore, while cost of materials consumed increased marginally to ₹57 crore from ₹56 crore, the gear and gear products manufacturer said in a statement.

The Murugappa group company said it had generated free cash flow of ₹39.20 crore. The board had recommended a special and final dividend of ₹2 per share on successful completion of 50 years.

NCLT halts IBREL's merger with NAM Estates, Embassy One

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The merger has received support from 99.9987% of shareholders, Indiabulls said

The National Company Law Tribunal's Chandigarh Bench on Tuesday withheld sanction for the merger of NAM Estates Pvt. Ltd. (NAM Estates) and Embassy One Commercial Property Developments Pvt. Ltd. (Embassy One) with Indiabulls Real Estate Ltd. (IBREL).

The merger had won approval in April 2022 from the NCLT's Bengaluru Bench, which has jurisdiction over NAM Estates and Embassy One.

However, the NCLT's Chandigarh Bench, which has jurisdiction over IBREL, had earlier raised concerns based on the Income Tax department's objections to the merger, IBREL said in a filing.

"IBREL strongly believes that these objections and concerns were unfounded, unjustified... [and] will await the detailed order to further evaluate the next steps and shall explore all options, including filing an appeal."

"The merger has already received overwhelming support from 99.9987% of shareholders... and has also received approval from other regulators," it added.

Embassy group is committed to the deal, Chairman Jitu Virwani said.

'Sub judice cases shouldn't be politicised'

Why should such statements be made by anyone when the matter is *sub judice*, asks Supreme Court

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said *sub judice* cases should not be "politicised" after a petitioner alleged on Tuesday that Home Minister Amit Shah has made public statements about the scrapping of the 4% quota for Muslims in Karnataka ahead of the Assembly elections.

"Why should such statements be made by anyone when the matter is *sub judice*?" a Bench of Justices K.M. Joseph, B.V. Nagarathna and Ahsanuddin Amanullah asked.

Senior advocate Dushyant Dave, for petitioner Ghulam Rasool, said the statements are being made by none other than the

Amit Shah

Home Minister. "They are proudly saying that they have withdrawn [the quota]..." Mr. Dave said.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta objected vehemently to the submission, saying the court had not been "told about the context, content or anything".

Mr. Shah had said there was no provision for reservation on the basis of religion in the Constitution, and the 4% quota was unconstitutional. This had led the ruling BJP government in the State to scrap the reservation.

The Solicitor General said a person was fully justified to say he was principally against religion-based reservation. Mr. Mehta said he was not for bringing politics into the court.

"We just want discipline to be maintained...when a matter is pending before the court..." Justice Nagarathna remarked.

The Bench said there was a marked difference between a counsel arguing in court and a person making a statement of a case *sub judice* in a public space.

The State brought up the right to free speech, but the court said a reservation issue pending in court ought not to be politicised.

The Bench adjourned the case after Mr. Mehta assured that appointments or admissions would not be made in the State on the basis of the State Government order of March 27, which divided the 4% quota equally between the Vokkaliga and Lingayat castes, for the time being when the case was pending in the Supreme Court.

In a hearing on April 13, Justice Joseph had prima facie remarked that the State's decision to scrap the quota for Muslims was based on "absolutely fallacious assumptions".

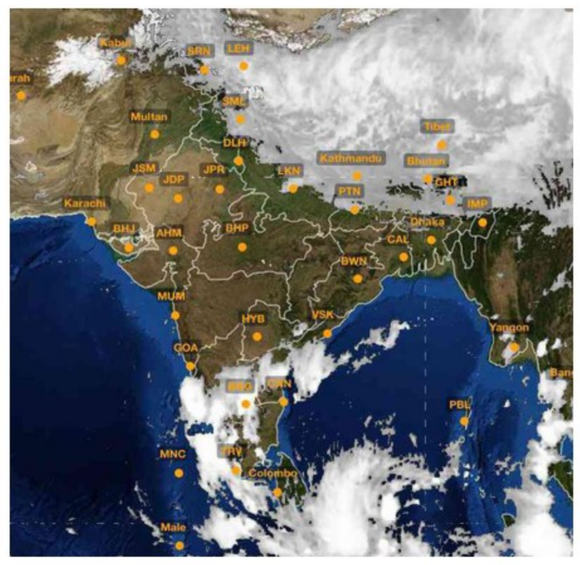
Justice Joseph had pointed out that Muslims, for a very long period, were treated as a 'more backward' community. "They were sandwiched somewhere between the 'most backward' and 'backward' communities. Suddenly you have taken reservation benefits away from them... I have to speak my mind here, so that you can respond... What strikes me as a student of law is that the order is based on absolutely fallacious assumptions," Justice Joseph had orally observed.

Mr. Dave had then argued that the State removed Muslims from the backward class list and included them under the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) category without any empirical data collected or study done to support the move. The March 27 government order to scrap the Muslim quota in the State was based on an "interim" report from the Karnataka State Backward Classes Commission.

He had submitted that the inclusion of Muslim community in the EWS list illegally implied that the community was not socially and educationally backward. "After 50 years, they removed the reservation for Muslims overnight and gave it to somebody else. This was done just two days before the State Assembly elections were announced. You want to favour Vokkaligas and Lingayats, do that. But don't take away reservations given to Muslims... They don't want to displease others, but we are dispensable," Mr. Dave had submitted.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 19.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at a few/isolated places over south interior Karnataka, Kerala, Mahe and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal and coastal Karnataka

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	39.6	26.7	Kozhikode	—	36.5	28.2
Ahmedabad	—	42.9	27.0	Kurnool	—	37.4	27.1
Aizawl	—	38.0	18.5	Lucknow	—	40.0	23.3
Allahabad	—	43.2	23.8	Madurai	—	37.6	—
Bengaluru	5	32.5	20.5	Mangaluru	3.4	34.0	24.2
Bhopal	—	—	25.7	Mumbai	—	33.9	27.4
Bhubaneswar	—	38.7	26.8	Mysuru	24.5	36.0	21.0
Chandigarh	—	34.9	20.0	New Delhi	—	37.2	20.7
Chennai	—	36.5	26.2	Patna	—	42.0	25.4
Coimbatore	—	34.6	24.4	Port Blair	—	33.4	27.9
Dehradun	—	33.8	19.2	Puducherry	—	35.0	26.0
Gangtok	47	22.8	13.5	Pune	9.2	36.5	24.2
Goa	—	34.6	27.3	Raipur	—	40.0	26.7
Guwahati	—	36.3	22.4	Ranchi	—	38.6	24.7
Hubballi	—	33.0	24.0	Shillong	—	28.5	17.0
Hyderabad	—	36.7	27.0	Shimla	8	19.0	8.4
Imphal	—	34.6	19.7	Srinagar	6	19.1	6.3
Jaipur	—	39.1	25.8	Thiruvananthapuram	2	33.6	26.7
Kochi	20	32.4	25.0	Tiruchi	5	37.1	25.0
Kohima	—	27.4	15.4	Vijayawada	—	37.5	27.6
Kolkata	—	38.9	29.6	Visakhapatnam	—	35.0	28.6

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	...7	..—	..—	...221	...264	
Bengaluru	.32	..11	.95	53	66	
Chennai	112	..23	.14	48	37	
Delhi	.30	166	110	...200	...264	
Hyderabad	.25	..35	.80	63	...100	
Kolkata	.34	..16	.28	...107	81	
Lucknow	.11	..74	.35	...194	...179	
Mumbai	.31	..21	.67	...125	99	
Pune	125	189	114	...128	92	
Visakhapatnam	.16	..44	.22	76	91	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Baghpat, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 306 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Madikeri, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 24

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

No scope for determining shares of parties in proceedings for grant of succession certificate: HC

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The scope to determining the shares of the parties would not be available in proceedings for grant of succession certificate under the Indian Succession Act, 1925, the High Court of Karnataka has said.

"Moreover, grant of succession certificate merely identifies the hands in which the death benefits/debts/securities be given and it does not entitle such person to appropriate such securities, debts etc. to himself. Grant of succession certificate will not determine the rights of the parties in any way," the court observed.

Judgment upheld

Justice C.M. Joshi passed the order while upholding the judgments of taluk and district courts of Kalaburagi in granting succession certificate to only the wife and minor son of one Nagappa, who died in 2008. The trial courts had rejected the claim of Mr. Nagappa's parents for grant of succession certificate jointly to them also. The parents wanted their inclusion in succession certificate to stake claim for the service benefits of their deceased son.

"Section 373 of the Act merely lays down that the court is required to be satisfied that there is ground for entertaining the application namely by a person who desires to make a claim. It is not necessary for the court to enter upon other questions involved. The entitlement of the benefits or other issues which would be consequence of such character, which cannot be litigated upon on an application for succession certificate cannot be gone into," the High Court said.

Proper conclusion

The High Court said that the trial courts came to a proper conclusion in granting succession certificate only to the wife and son, and giving liberty to the parents to approach the proper forum for their claim over service benefits.

However, the High Court made it clear that the father of Mr. Nagappa is not entitled for the Hindu Succession Act Class-I heir of deceased, as it is mother alone is treated as makes it clear that the mother alone happens to be the Class-I heir of the deceased.

'PM's video appeal violates code'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress moved the Election Commission (EC) on Tuesday against Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his video appeal to the voters of Karnataka after campaigning ended at 5 p.m. on Monday.

Mr. Modi posted a video appeal on Twitter on Tuesday morning in which he said Karnataka could help him achieve his mission to make India a developed nation by voting for BJP.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
New Delhi
(Department of Road Transport and Highways)

Notification

Roc.No.13/2023/B4 Dated : 02.05.2023

Notification under Section 3G(3) of the National Highway Act 1956 (48 of 1956) and Amendment Act 1997 (Act No. 1997)

Whereas, the Central Government have declared that the lands specified in the Schedule announced in the Eachangur, Kodiyalam and Kothapalli villages of Hosur Taluk, Krishnagiri District are required for the public purpose Construction of Bagalur Bypass from Km 3.00 to Km 9.350 of Sharjapur - Bagalur - Hosur Road NH 207 (New NH 648) in Krishnagiri District in the State of TamilNadu.

And whereas, in exercise of the powers conferred by the Sub-section(1) Section 3D of National Highways Act 1956 (48/1956) the Central Government have notified in S.O.No.1669 (E) , dated 06.04.2023 and the same notification have published in government of India Gazette, Extraordinary No.1590 Part IISection-3, Sub Section(ii) dated 06.04.2023 from pages from 1 to 46 that the land specified in the schedule annexed shall be acquired for the public purpose mentioned above.

And whereas, the Central Government also notified that the land specified in the schedule annexed are vested with the Central Government from the date of publication of the notification u/s 2 of section 3D of National Highway Act 1956 in the official Gazette dated. 06.04.2023 are free from all encumbrances

All the land owners and other interested person in the land specified in the Schedule appear in person or through their authorized agent or through a legal practitioner, before the Competent Authority and Special District Revenue Officer (LA), Krishnagiri at the following venue on the date and time specified below and submit claims and state the nature of the respective interest in such lands with relevant records.

DETAIL & PLACE OF ENQUIRY, DATE AND TIME

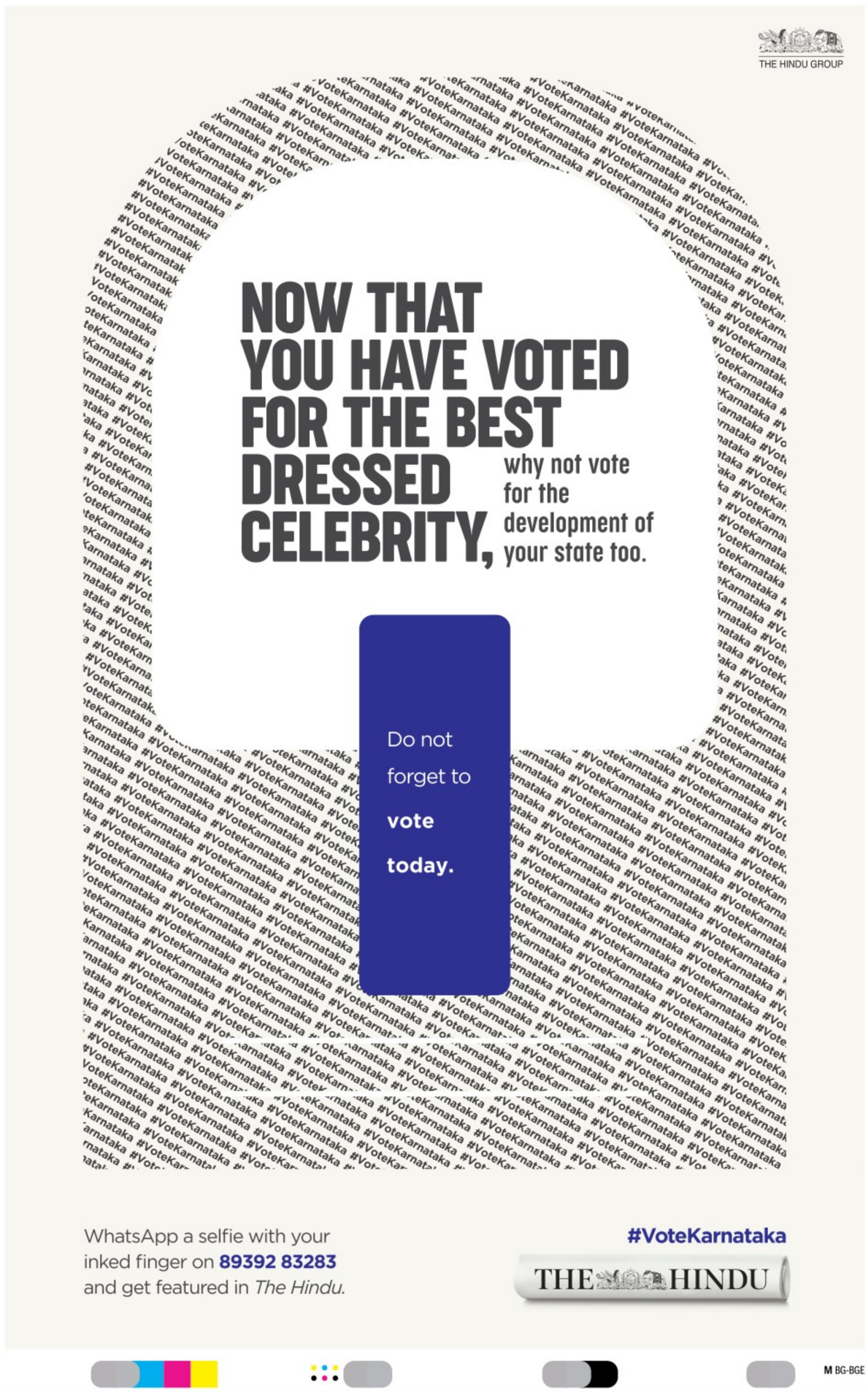
S. No.	Taluk	Name of the Village	Date	Time	Place
1.	Hosur	Eachangur	24.05.2023	11.00 AM to 04.00 PM	Village Administrative Office, Sokkanathapuram, Eachangur Revenue Village
2	Hosur	Kodiyalam			
3	Hosur	Kothapalli			

SCHEDULE

Brief description of the Land to be acquired with or without structure falling for Construction of Bagalur Bypass from Km.3.00 to Km 9.350 of NH-207 (New NH-648) in the District of KRISHNAGIRI in the State of TAMILNADU.

State: Tamil Nadu			District: Krishnagiri		
Sl. No.	Survey No.	Type of Land	Nature of Land	Area (in Hectares)	Name of the Land Owner/Interested Person Part survey No.
Taluk:Hosur					
Village:Eachangur					
1	35/1	Privcate	Dry	0.29.46	Muniyamma W/o. Muniyappa 35/1B
2	42/2A	Private	Wet	0.03.00	Sankar Reddy S/o. Koopli Reddy 42/2A
Village: Kodiyalam					
1	178/11	Private	Wet	0.12.23	1) N. Krishna Reddy S/o. K.T. Nanjunda Reddy 2) N.Gopala Reddy S/o. K.T. Nanjunda Reddy 3) N.Sinivasa Reddy S/o. K.T. Nanjunda Reddy 4) Nanjunda Reddy S/o. Petha Thimma Reddy 178/11B
Village : Kothapalli					
1	18/18	Private	Dry	0.03.96	1) Sumithra D/o. Anjenaya 2) Kundan Agro Private Ltd., 18/18A
2	2/8	Private	Dry	0.12.80	Gopal S/o. (Late) Rajappa 2/8B

Competent Authority & Special District Revenue Officer (L.A),
NH - 7, 46, 47, 66, 844 & 648
Salem - Krishnagiri District @ Krishnagiri.



COSTLY AFFAIR

KKR skipper Nitish Rana fined ₹12 lakh for maintaining slow over-rate

KKR captain Nitish Rana has been fined ₹12 lakh after his team maintained a slow over-rate during their IPL match against PBKS in Kolkata. As it was his team's first offence of the season under the IPL's code of conduct relating to minimum over-rate offences, Rana was fined the amount, the league said in a statement.

ALL-ROUNDERS APLENTY

Shardul allays fitness concerns; says team did not need him to bowl

Shardul Thakur allayed concerns over his fitness, saying he has been under-bowled due to the abundance of all-rounders in the Kolkata Knight Riders squad. "We have eight bowling options... it also depends on the situation of the game, the need to bowl me or not," said Shardul.

BIG BLOW

Injured Archer out of IPL 2023, MI gets Jordan as replacement

England and Mumbai Indians fast bowler Jofra Archer was ruled out of the ongoing Indian Premier League on Tuesday. The 28-year-old will be replaced by England teammate Chris Jordan. Archer returned to international cricket in January after being sidelined for more than a year with elbow and back injuries.

GLITCH IN THE MATRIX

Rohit's problem is mental, not technical: Sehwag

Former India opener Virender Sehwag said Rohit Sharma is suffering from a "mental block" and not a technical hitch. "Rohit is not battling with the bowlers but with himself. There's no problem with his batting technique. But the day he gets going, he will make up for all previous matches," said Sehwag.

Suryakumar-Wadhera show lifts MI to third spot

The duo's blistering 140-run partnership off 66 balls makes light of a 200-run target; after du Plessis and Maxwell's big stand, RCB's middle-order batters fail to accelerate

IPL-16

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

Virat Kohli perished in the first over. Rohit Sharma was dismissed for his fifth consecutive single-digit score. However, the capacity crowd at the Wankhede Stadium was treated to a high-scoring IPL 2023 match between Mumbai Indians and Royal Challengers Bangalore.

After RCB captain Faf du Plessis and Glenn Maxwell set the stage ablaze with a 120-run partnership off 61 balls, Suryakumar Yadav's blitzkrieg saw Mumbai Indians cruise home in pursuit of a 200-run target.

Riding on Suryakumar's 35-ball 83 (7x4, 6x6) and his 140-run association with Nehal Wadhera (52 n.o., 34b, 4x4, 3x6) for the third wicket off 66 balls, Mumbai Indians overhauled the target with 21 balls to spare, registering its third 200-plus chase this season.

By the time Wadhera joined Suryakumar in the middle, Ishan Kishan had already made optimum use of the PowerPlay.

Suryakumar and Wadhera scored freely in the next six overs before the former switched gears in characteristic fashion.

Off his last 12 balls, Suryakumar scored a whopping 44 runs. Mohammed Siraj was smashed down the ground, Vyshak Vijayakumar was sent packing into the top tier of the Vijay Merchant Pavilion and Wanindu Hasaranga was swept into the stands.

Suryakumar's audacious strokeplay not only helped Mumbai Indians notch up its sixth win, but also boosted its Net Run Rate (NRR) and catapulted it to the third spot.

Mumbai Indians, however, would realise that had it not been for its bowlers stemming the flow of runs towards the end of the Royal Challengers innings, the target could well have been in excess of 220.

Earlier, with du Plessis scooping and driving with aplomb and Maxwell at his innovative best, the visitors were progressing at a frenetic pace. It took left-arm pacer Jason Behrendorff, who had struck twice in the PowerPlay, to return and break the lethal 120-run stand off just 61 balls.

Once Maxwell slog-swept straight to deep mid-wicket in the 13th over, the Bengaluru side's middle-order woes came back to haunt it as it lost three wickets – Mahipal Lomror in the 14th and du Plessis (15th) followed Maxwell to the dugout almost immediately – in 10 deliveries.

Though Dinesh Karthik (30, 18b, 4x4, 1x6) helped Royal Challengers muster 47 in the last five overs, a total of 199 was not enough to stop Suryakumar and Wadhera.

Blue thunder: Suryakumar and Wadhera scattered the Royal Challengers attack with some audacious and innovative strokeplay. EMMANUAL YOGINI

SCOREBOARD

ROYAL CHALLENGERS
Virat Kohli c Kishan b Behrendorff 1 *(4b)*, Faf du Plessis c sub (Vishnu) b Green 65 *(41b, 5x4, 3x6)*, Anuj Rawat c Green b Behrendorff 6 *(4b, 1x4)*, Glenn Maxwell c Wadhera b Behrendorff 68 *(33b, 8x4, 4x6)*, Mahipal Lomror b Kartikeya 1 *(3b)*, Dinesh Karthik c Wadhera b Jordan 30 *(18b, 4x4, 1x6)*, Kedar Jadhav **(Impact Player in place of Lomror)** (not out) 12 *(10b, 1x4)*, Wanindu Hasaranga (not out) 12 *(8b, 2x4)*; Extras (lb-1, w-2, nb-1): 4; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 199.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-2 (Kohli, 0.5 overs), 2-16 (Rawat, 2.2), 3-136 (Maxwell, 12.3), 4-143 (Lomror, 13.4), 5-146 (du Plessis, 14.1), 6-185 (Karthik, 18.1).

MUMBAI INDIANS BOWLING
Behrendorff 4-0-36-3, Chawla 4-0-41-0, Green 2-0-15-1, Jordan 4-0-48-1, Kartikeya 4-0-35-1, Madhwal 2-0-23-0.

MUMBAI INDIANS
Ishan Kishan c Rawat b Hasaranga 42 *(21b, 4x4, 4x6)*, Rohit Sharma lbw b Hasaranga 7 *(8b, 1x4)*, Suryakumar Yadav c Jadhav b Vyshak 83 *(35b, 7x4, 6x6)*, Nehal Wadhera (not out) 52 *(34b, 4x4, 3x6)*, Tim David c Maxwell b Vyshak 0 *(1b)*, Cameron Green (not out) 2 *(2b)*; Extras (lb-6, w-6, nb-2): 14; Total (for four wkts. in 16.3 overs): 200.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-51 (Kishan, 4.4), 2-52 (Rohit, 4.6), 3-192 (Suryakumar, 15.4), 4-192 (David, 15.5).

RCB BOWLING
Siraj 3-0-31-0, Hazlewood 3-0-32-0, Hasaranga 4-0-53-2, Vyshak 3-0-37-2, Harshal 3.3-0-41-0.

Toss: MI; **PoM:** Suryakumar.
Mumbai Indians won by six wickets with 21 balls remaining.

Next assignment

MI: May 12 **vs. GT**
Mumbai, 7.30 p.m.

RCB: May 14 **vs. RR**
Jaipur, 3.30 p.m.

Super Kings up against resurgent Capitals

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

With a playoffs spot within sight, Chennai Super Kings will look to get the better of Delhi Capitals at the M.A. Chidambaram Stadium on Wednesday.

Super Kings produced a clinical performance beating Mumbai Indians by six wickets over the weekend, ending a three-match winless run.

The four-time champion is currently placed second on the table with 13 points, and a win against the last-placed Capitals will take it one step closer to finishing in the top four.

While the CSK batting line-up has been firing on all cylinders, the bowling has let the team down often this season.

In the previous match, though, there were some positive signs as its bowlers produced a fine effort to restrict the five-time champion side to a below-par score. Importantly, pacers Deepak Chahar and Tushar Deshpande had a good outing, and skipper M.S. Dhoni will want to see more of it.

Meanwhile, after losing its first five matches, Capitals have fought back with four wins in its last five. In an unusually competitive season, the Delhi side finds itself just four points behind the fourth-placed team and still has a realistic shot of making the playoffs.

The David Warner-led side is riding a wave of confidence after beating Royal Challengers Bangalore comprehensively in the last match. Batting has been the team's Achilles Heel this year, but it came good against RCB as Capitals chased down a target of 182 with more than three overs to spare.

However, the game in Chepauk will test the visitors as their core batting line-up largely depends on its overseas contingent. How the likes of Warner, Mitchell Marsh and Phil Salt handle CSK's spinners could well decide the outcome of this game.

Invaluable: Capitals skipper Warner and head coach Ponting will benefit from the inputs given by assistant coach Watson who was once a Super Kings star. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

Today's match

CSK vs. DC
Chennai, 7.30 p.m.

HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: 27
CSK 17 | DC 10

PREVIOUS MEETING
CSK won by **91 runs**, 2022

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD) & JIO CINEMA APP

Pant's absence was unsettling: Watson

Good tidings: CSK's batting coach Hussey is satisfied with the team's current position. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

Chennai Super Kings batting coach Michael Hussey felt the team is hitting its stride at the right time.

"In general, I am happy with where the group is at. There are always areas you can improve on, but that is on a game-to-game basis. They are all working hard on the individual aspects of their game and areas they want to improve. But at this stage of the tournament, it is more about just sticking to what they know and doing it really well," said Hussey ahead of the team's clash against Delhi Capitals.

Hussey revealed that the team is hoping that big-hitter Shivam Dube will recover in time for Wednesday's fixture after sustaining a finger injury during the last match against Mumbai Indians.

Delhi Capitals assistant coach Shane Watson admitted the team underestimated the challenge of filling Rishabh Pant's role. "We just didn't realise the full extent of how much we were trying to fulfil the void left by Pant. It was not just as leader and wicket-keeper but also his skill through the middle overs, batting at number four or five," said Watson.

"Unfortunately, it took us a bit of time to work out our combinations and give people the confidence of knowing their exact roles and how they can perform at their best," he added.

Russell all praise for 'game-changer' Rinku's fearlessness

Amitabha Das Sharma
KOLKATA

Jamaican all-rounder Andre Russell heaped praise on Rinku Singh's "fearlessness" saying the underrated batter was fast becoming Kolkata Knight Riders' game-changer.

Russell himself made a great return to form with a whirlwind 42 (off 23 balls) setting the stage for KKR's five-wicket win against Punjab Kings on Monday night at the Eden Gardens. But it was Rinku who realised the victory with a last-ball boundary.

This happened after Russell was run out off the penultimate ball of the innings leaving Rinku with the task of scoring the winning runs off the last ball of the innings.

'Big man, no worries!'

"Rinku, who has been successful in the last few games for us, is a fearless player. Wherever you bowl he has a shot to counter that. I told him we need you and we need you at this point and he said 'Big Man, no worries!'" Russell said.

"I am not sure whether I would have attempted a run in any other game, with any other batter at the opposite end. I have never really done those things before as I would back myself to bat till the last delivery and get the job done. But hen you have a batter like Rinku at the other end you can take risks," added Russell.

Going places: Rinku's approach to batting augurs well for Kolkata Knight Riders. K.R. DEEPAK

Points Table

	M	W	L	NR	PTS	NRR
Gujarat Titans	11	8	3	0	16	0.951
Chennai Super Kings	11	6	4	1	13	0.409
Mumbai Indians	11	6	5	0	12	-0.255
Lucknow Super Giants	11	5	5	1	11	0.294
Rajasthan Royals	11	5	6	0	10	0.388
Kolkata Knight Riders	11	5	6	0	10	-0.079
Royal Challengers	11	5	6	0	10	-0.345
Punjab Kings	11	5	6	0	10	-0.441
Sunrisers Hyderabad	10	4	6	0	8	-0.472
Delhi Capitals	10	4	6	0	8	-0.529

After the MI-RCB match on May 9

Green crosshairs

A multi-pronged counter is warranted to tackle the EU's carbon tax plans

Starting this October, the European Union (EU) proposes to introduce a framework for levying a carbon tax on imports of products that rely on non-green or sub-optimally sustainable processes and where carbon emissions are deemed to have not been adequately priced. This Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) will begin with an import monitoring mechanism and culminate in the levy of duties as determined from January 2026. The EU argues that the CBAM will ensure its climate objectives are not undermined by carbon-intensive imports and spur cleaner production in the rest of the world. This poses a significant threat to some of India's biggest exports to the trading bloc, including iron ore and steel, with carbon levies estimated to range from 19.8% to 52.7%. During a visit to France in early April, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said it was too early to gauge the tax's impact on Indian exports, as operational clarity was yet to emerge. By last Thursday, top trade officials were more assertive and termed tackling this risk as one of the top items on the government's agenda, with several options being explored.

It is critical that the Centre reacts with greater alacrity to what may be considered by some as a sophisticated trade barrier doused in 'greenwashing' optics, proposed by the EU. Last year, about a third of India's iron, steel and aluminium exports, for instance, were shipped to EU members. Engineering products, the largest export growth driver in recent years, would be impacted too. Larger players across sectors are gradually turning to greener technologies, but the transition needs time – even more so for smaller businesses – to move away from legacy carbon-heavy technologies (such as blast furnaces for steel making). The EU believes the carbon tax is compatible with World Trade Organization norms, but India is looking to challenge that. It may also flag the incompatibility with the UN's climate change framework which moots common but differentiated responsibilities for developed and developing nations. But even if these arguments are upheld, these two avenues lack enforcement options. So, a threat of retaliatory tariffs on EU imports is also being weighed even as plans are afoot to quantify the various carbon taxes levied in India. Having positioned itself as the voice of the global South, India must play that part to the hilt while at the helm of the G-20 this year and galvanise other nations to take on the EU's carbon tax framework. This championing need not revolve around its own concerns, but the far worse implications the CBAM entails for poorer countries, many of whom rely more heavily on mineral resources than India does.

Syria's homecoming

Arab world must help rebuild Syria, while keeping up pressure on Assad

The Arab League's decision to readmit Syria, after over a decade of isolation, signals a growing desire of regional powers to set aside intra-Arab rivalries and work towards establishing a more predictable, stable relationship with one another. Ironically, it is Saudi Arabia, which had rallied the Arab countries to expel Syria in 2011 amid the regime's crackdown on protests, that pushed for Syria's readmission. The move is also recognition that Syria's President Bashar al-Assad has practically won the civil war and signals the weakening influence of the U.S., which still imposes heavy sanctions on the regime and is upset with the League's decision. When protests broke out in Syria in 2011, inspired by similar protests elsewhere in the Arab Street, the regime's response was one of violent repression. But when the protesters took up arms and got support from Mr. Assad's regional rivals such as Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Jordan and Turkey, the crisis turned into civil war. Over the years, the Assad regime, backed by Russia, Iran and the Hezbollah, managed to stabilise and push back the rebels and jihadists. Today, Mr. Assad controls most of the country, except Idlib in the northwest, which is run by a former al-Qaeda unit, and the northeastern parts ruled by the Kurds, where the U.S. has a military presence.

Though late, the Arab countries realised that their policy of regime change and isolation of Syria had only boomeranged on them. As Syria was expelled from the Arab League and Arab countries backed anti-regime forces in the civil war, Damascus moved closer to Iran. Today, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Jordan and others want to reestablish the lost balance in their ties with Syria. The Arab countries and Turkey, which host millions of Syrian refugees, want to send them back. For that, they need to cooperate with and help sanctions-hit Syria, which was battered by a devastating earthquake in February, sustain itself economically. The changing geopolitical environment in West Asia in which rivals Saudi Arabia and Iran are warming up to each other has also helped the Arab rapprochement with Syria. As a token gesture, Syria has agreed to take back 1,000 refugees from Jordan and cooperate with neighbours to crack down on drug smuggling. But this is only the beginning. Mr. Assad might have won the civil war, but the wounds of the war, in which his regime used brutal methods to crush the opposition, are still festering. The country's infrastructure needs massive investments, the economy needs a reboot and the millions of stranded Syrians have to be allowed to return. The Arab countries could help Syria rebuild itself, while also pushing Mr. Assad to reach out to the opposition to find a permanent solution to the country's religious and political cleavages.

Salvaging the idea and reality of Manipur

Kham Khan Suan Hausing

is Professor and Head, Department of Political Science, University of Hyderabad

The communal riots which erupted in Manipur since the evening of May 3, between the Meiteis and Kuki-Hmar-Zomi communities, have unleashed unprecedented human displacement, a tragic loss of lives and destruction of property, and show no signs of closure. As the nature and character of the riots transform from one of ethnic cleansing to genocidal attacks across the divide, the precarity of law and order remains as ragtag mobs with the support of armed groups from either side continue to expand the theatre of these riots to the peripheral areas, with more virulence. The large-scale deployment of paramilitary forces, predominantly in urban areas, is clearly not sufficient to maintain 'law and order' in the State's peripheries. Even as large parts of State have turned into a Hobbesian world, where the dictum 'might is right' determines whether lives remain brutish, nasty, and short, the trails of destruction have already bruised the ideational and geopolitical foundations of Manipur beyond any immediate repair.

The delay in imposing the shoot-at-sight order for a night-and-a-day in Imphal and valley areas now appears as deliberate state complicity to allow ragtag mobs to do the job of a comprehensive targeting and erasure of lives, properties and land records (*pattas*) with precision. When this order came on the latter part of May 4, the project of ethnic cleansing of the tribals (Kuki-Zomi-Hmar) and a *de facto* erasure of their land titles that the tribals held for centuries in the valley was already accomplished. The thousands of tribals and Meiteis who are being evacuated to safety from Imphal and Lamka (and other towns) to towns inside Manipur and various Indian metros are likely to be displaced as 'refugees' for a long time. Sadly, 'encroachers', 'eviction' and 'refugees' are labels that will now no longer remain the exclusive preserve of any particular community.

The swift imposition of a shoot-at-sight order in Churachandpur district on the evening of May 3 is in stark contrast to the night-and-a-day delay in the valley areas. Yet, this has not succeeded in forestalling the sanitisation of disparate Meitei settlements across Churachandpur district and other peripheral areas across the State. Either way, extensive ethnic cleansing suggests that the geopolitical body of Manipur has been badly bruised and radically transformed beyond recognition.

For one thing, the rag-tag mobs, as marionettes of the integrationist project of the State and Meiteis, have succeeded partially in their attempt to dissolve tribal land rights in the valley areas, a major grouse the Meiteis have against the tribals in hill areas. In fact, this grouse was a major reason which set the stage for these conflagrations. Similar extensive counter ethnic-cleansing drives in various parts of the hills imply that considerable Meitei settlements are likely to be erased forever. The existence of multiple tribal localities in Imphal and its valley environs inhabited by the Nagas implies that the State's aggressive integrationist and majoritarian project has to contend with this asymmetrical regime on land rights where tribals, unlike the Meiteis, can own land both in the hills and the valley.

> The stability and territorial integrity of a society such as Manipur can be secured only by genuine recognition and substantive accommodation of territorial rights and identities

The extensive bruises to and radical transformations of the geopolitical body of Manipur caused by these riots are likely to make the task of post-conflict state building and transformation of state-society relations extremely difficult, if not impossible. Some possible and tentative blueprints are in order.

Any attempt to secure future stability and peace in ways that will help in the stable management of post-conflict situations must begin with the audacity to confess and confront the truth about the very nature of these riots and their principal cause. The State under the N. Biren Singh-led Bharatiya Janata Party government must take primary responsibility for preparing, activating and sustaining what Paul Brass, an expert on Indian politics, calls, the 'institutionalised riots system' as a first step. Given that these riots built up and happened under his watch, Mr. Biren Singh must resign so that accountability is fixed and trust in the political system restored. A judicial commission under the Supreme Court of India supervision must be set up to fix accountability immediately so that the institutionalised ecosystem of riots does not replicate in the future.

Need for recognition and accommodation

The BJP-government and Meiteis must realise that the stability and territorial integrity of a pillarised society such as Manipur is secured not by an aggressive integrationist project and non-functional sub-State asymmetrical institutions, but by genuine recognition and substantive accommodation of territorial rights and identities, and by making these institutions work. The disintegration of the East European states in the 1990s should be a good reminder of why it is not federalism per se but the lack of democracy and the rickety functioning of federal institutions which predate disorder and state collapse. Manipur should learn from this and from the ability of deeply-divided societies such as Belgium, Canada and Switzerland to 'hold together' which is facilitated by their enduring commitment to accommodate and institutionalise differences as a valuable good.

In the post-conflict scenario, salvaging the idea and geopolitical reality of Manipur may impel a radical shifting of constitutional gear. This is imperative if the hills and valley communities are to live together under one political roof. Minimally, this may impel a more genuine accommodation of tribal rights and identities under the Sixth Schedule and a more robust Article 371C where 'scheduled matters' on the hill areas are made inviolable by brute legislative majority. However, given the hardened positions adopted by both sides, this may be easier said than done.

As a goodwill gesture, the State must withdraw all its notifications on reserved forests, protected forests and wildlife sanctuaries. It must also stop the blanket targeting of communities as 'foreigners', 'encroachers' and 'illegal immigrants'. Future policy-decisions of the State must consistently follow the established procedure of laws.

State-building ahead

The weak state-society model that obtains in the State suggests that an 'ethnic security dilemma' – in Barry Posen's sense – will persist in the absence of the capacity of the State to guarantee overarching security. Institutional trust and legitimacy will be critical in holding together deeply divided societies such as Manipur as a result. The state must adopt even-handedness in its dealing with diverse communities and must not cave into the pressure of the majority in the future.

Such an accommodationist framework, if it were to work and obtain trust and legitimacy from the governed, must be alive to the distinctive and historical pedigree of extant sub-State constitutional asymmetry and increasing sense of insecurity of the Meiteis under the weight of demographic pressure. The project of reviving and sustaining the idea and the geopolitical body of Manipur can be realistic only when 'dissensual communities' engage in reasoned dialogue and conversation by mutually respecting each other as equals, in a spirit of give and take. The landlocked nature of the State and the fact that it had an admixture of populations across the State – drawn from populations within and across various States – implies that any prolonged conflagrations will be mutually destructive and self-defeating.

Future state-building and accommodation of distinctive rights and identities are indeed challenging given that the sense of hate and mutual distrust has run deep across communities. Leaders of communities, the State and all-important stakeholders must confront the truth about the mutually self-destructive nature of violence. Serious and concerted inter-community reconciliation efforts must be initiated immediately if Manipur as an inclusive idea and a geopolitical space of accommodation were to be revived.

The 'right to health' goal and a role for Taiwan

Dr. Hsueh Jui-yuan

is Minister of Health and Welfare, Republic of China (Taiwan)

As the world enters the fourth year of the COVID-19 pandemic, the situation is gradually improving. Most border restrictions have been lifted and global health governance is now focused on a post-pandemic recovery. Countries have stepped up efforts to achieve health and well-being for all and further the realisation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), whose progress was impacted by the pandemic.

Taiwan fully supports health-related SDGs and the World Health Organization's 'Triple Billion targets'. Taiwan is committed to building a more resilient and equitable health service supply chain, maintaining an inclusive and equitable universal health coverage system, and providing disease prevention and management through a robust primary health-care system. It is willing and able to share its experience in creating a cross-sectoral, innovative, and people-centered health approach to help the international community work toward the realisation of health-related SDGs.

Taiwan's pandemic response

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Taiwan effectively mitigated the spread of the disease by leveraging its comprehensive public health-care system, well-trained personnel, and epidemiological surveillance, investigation, and analysis systems.

The Taiwanese people played a pivotal role too by following appropriate social behaviour, following quarantine regulations and getting vaccinated. When compared with the 38 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development member states and Singapore, Taiwan ranks sixth-lowest in COVID-19 mortality and case-fatality rates. Taiwan also ranks fourth-highest for coverage rates of at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose and third-highest in terms of vaccine boosters administered.

> With the COVID-19 pandemic abating and dialogue on strengthening health systems worldwide accelerating, Taiwan should not be left out

Last year, the World Health Organization's Director-General outlined five priorities for the subsequent five years: promoting health, providing health services, protecting health, powering progress, and performing. Moreover, WHO's 'Achieving well-being', a draft global framework for integrating well-being into public health that utilised a health promotion approach, further demonstrates its commitment to health for all.

A focus on disease prevention

Taiwan established a universal health-care insurance system in 1995, which provides disease prevention and health-care services for all. These include prenatal checkups, gestational diabetes screening, anemia testing, and three ultrasound examinations to reduce pregnancy risks and promote maternal and infant health. To assist infertile couples and reduce the financial burdens of in-vitro fertilization, the government has continued to expand subsidised infertility treatment programmes. Taiwan also aims to create a breastfeeding-friendly environment and provide preventive paediatric health care and health education. Taiwan has a number of prevention and management programmes for non-communicable diseases which include targeting chronic metabolic diseases help assist at-risk groups, diet and exercise guidance as well as smoking and betel nut cessation information to empower people. Taiwan also supports the global fight against cancer and WHO's goal of reducing cancer mortality by 25% by 2025. In line with WHO's Cervical Cancer Elimination Initiative, Taiwan subsidises cervical screenings and human papillomavirus vaccinations. HPV vaccines have been administered to female students (12 to 15 years) since 2018, with a coverage rate of 92.1% by December 2022.

Taiwan's National Health Insurance (NHI) offers financial protection and access to a range of essential services. The COVID-19 pandemic helped the international community recognise the importance of regional cooperation and digitisation in health care. Taiwan is committed to promoting digital health and innovation to enhance the accessibility and quality of health-care services, including plans for a next-generation NHI programme. Innovative services, utilising real-time tele-health consultations for remote areas and outlying islands, and is exploring applications for artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies. During the pandemic, Taiwan issued 13 export licences for its herbal formula NRICM101 (Taiwan Chingguan Yihau) to help countries in the region combat the pandemic. Taiwan is currently implementing preventive measures such as strengthening the domestic production of critical drugs and active pharmaceutical ingredients to avert future drug shortages. Taiwan will further share innovative technologies and best practices with partners around the world.

A place for Taiwan

Taiwan has not been invited to the World Health Assembly since 2017. Now that the COVID-19 pandemic is abating and dialogue on strengthening health systems worldwide is accelerating, Taiwan should not be left out. Taiwan's inclusion would make the world healthier, more sustainable, and more equitable.

Taiwan urges WHO and all relevant stakeholders to support Taiwan's inclusion in the World Health Assembly as an observer, as well as its full participation in WHO meetings, mechanisms, and activities. Taiwan will continue to work with the world to help ensure the fundamental right to health enshrined in the WHO Constitution. In the spirit of the SDGs, no country should be left behind – especially not Taiwan, which has made significant contributions to global public health.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Present-day politics

It is a pity to read about our medal winning wrestlers having to camp out on the streets begging for justice in cases of sexual harassment. The images are saddening. Is this the "*Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao*" India that was promised? And look at Manipur. Divide and rule is the norm in present-day politics. India is a vast country with innumerable religions, castes, languages and ethnicities. So, it is easy to divide on any one and reap advantages. I am 79 and have never seen such distressing divisions in my life. Being power thirsty and wanting power at any cost are the cause of these evils.

K.V.P. Panicker,
Kundara, Kerala

Pride of Chennai and India

The BCG vaccine laboratory in Chennai (BCGVL) turns 75, a historic vaccine-producing unit and, along with its neighbouring institute, King Institute of Preventive Medicine & Research, the pride of Chennai and India. Although the private sector is a part of this space now, the identity of the BCGVL, a public sector institution, should be strengthened as a nodal institution for BCG and related activities in the country with an additional focus on research such as treating bladder cancer.

Dr. V. Purushothaman,
Chennai

Centum

The extraordinary achievement by S. Nandhini of Tamil Nadu, a student of the commerce group who scored 600/600 in the Class 12 board exams is laudable. Nevertheless, it is a wonder how she could score a centum in English and Tamil. In the past, a score above 80 in the languages was ranked as a Herculean task. Has this generation of students become very efficient? Or has evaluation been liberalised?

K.V. Rajasekhar,
Neyveli, Tamil Nadu

A centum in English! P.C. Wren and H. Martin must be squirming in their graves. Is paper evaluation being done methodically?

Dr. R. Janakiraman,
Cheyyar, Tamil Nadu

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

INBRIEF

Former World No. 1 Murray claims his first title since 2019

Former World No. 1 Andy Murray won his first title since 2019 on Sunday with victory at the Aix-en-Provence Challenger in Marseille. The three-time Grand Slam champion Murray had gone without a title since he triumphed in Antwerp in October 2019. Murray, now ranked 52, defeated top seed Tommy Paul, the World No. 17 from the USA 2-6, 6-1, 6-2 in the final of the clay court event.

Fakhar and Naruemol are ICC players of the month

Pakistan batter Fakhar Zaman, *in pic.*, and Thailand skipper Naruemol Chaiwai were named ICC men's and women's players of the month for April.

Bhoria and Nishant book last-eight spots with ease

Deepak Bhoria (51kg) and Nishant Dev (71kg) won their respective last-16 bouts in style to reach the quarterfinals of the World boxing championships in Tashkent on Tuesday. Bhoria got past Chinese boxer Jiamao Zhang 5-0, while Nishant recorded a victory over Palestinian Nidal Foqahaa by the referee stopping the contest in the opening round. Sachin Siwach (Junior) put up a great fight before losing to top-seeded Makhmud Sabyrkhan of Kazakhstan 0-5 in a 54kg pre-quarterifnal clash. Akash Sangwan (67kg) lost0-5 to fifth-seeded Kazakh Dulat Bekbauov.

India bests Indonesia, meets Japan for group honours

India defeated Indonesia 3-0 for its second victory in group-B of the Asia-Oceania Junior Davis Cup under-16 tennis in Shymkent, Kazakhstan, on Tuesday. India will play Japan in the last league match to decide the group topper. Both teams have already made the quarterfinals.

The results (league): India bt Indonesia 3-0 (Rethin Pranav bt Rais Dewantara 6-0, 6-0; Kriish Tyagi bt Muhammad Akmal 6-2, 6-2; Aarjun Pandit & Kriish bt Muhammad Akmal & Ahmad Fauzan 7-6(2), 3-6, [10-8]).

LIVE TELECAST

NBA: MTV, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 5 & 7.30 a.m.

IPL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7.30 p.m.

Champions League: Sony Sports Ten 2, 3 (SD & HD) & LIV, 12.30 a.m. (Thursday).

Inter, armed with LuLa attack, takes on Milan

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Associated Press
MILAN

Inter Milan's LuLa attack appears back to its best ahead of the Champions League semifinal showdown against city rival AC Milan.

The partnership of Romelu Lukaku and Lautaro Martínez earned the LuLa nickname during the former's first spell at the club, when their goals drove Inter to the Serie A title in 2021.

While Martínez has continued to spearhead the attack since then, Lukaku had struggled with injury and poor form after returning on loan from Chelsea in the offseason.

However, Lukaku has now struck three goals in as many Serie A games – doubling his tally for the season. He has also contributed further with three assists in those matches.

Martínez has netted five times in his past four games to take his tally to 19 in the league.

Inter's defenders have also been helping out with the goals. Federico Dimarco's opener in Saturday's 2-0 Serie A win at Roma was set up by fellow full back Denzel Dumfries.

Next fixture: Inter Milan vs AC Milan, 12.30 a.m. (Thursday).

Messi's exploits fetch him individual and team double at Laureus Awards

World 100m champion Fraser-Pryce is best woman athlete; Alcaraz earns World Breakthrough-of-the-Year award

GENERAL

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

Best in the world: Messi and Fraser-Pryce with their statuettes in Paris on Monday. AFP

Argentina and Paris Saint-Germain star Lionel Messi on Monday scooped a unique double, landing individual and team Laureus awards for his exploits and those of his World-Cup winning nation.

Messi, 35, finally landed a first World Cup-winner medal in Qatar last December – enough to earn him an individual accolade while the seven-time *Ballon d'Or* winner also accepted the team award at a ceremony here.

The Argentine, who attended the ceremony with wife Antonela Roccuzzo, previously had won the award jointly with British Formula One champion Lewis Hamilton in 2020.

The accolade saw Messi, who earned a fine and suspension from PSG for making an unauthorised promotional visit to Saudi Arabia, see off competition notably from clubmate Kylian Mbappé, whose World Cup final hat-trick was not enough to earn him glory in Qatar.

Jamaican sprinter Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, who last August earned a fifth World 100m crown, picked up the female athlete award while US Open tennis champion Carlos Alcaraz earned the World Breakthrough-of-the-Year award.

Going back to football, Denmark and Manchester United star Christian Eriksen earned a Comeback Award for returning to the top of the European game after collapsing with cardiac arrest during the Euros two years ago.

Swiss para-athlete sensation Catherine Debrunner picked up the Disability Award after triumphing in her opening two marathons.

The Sport for Good Award was presented to TeamUp – a programme for the children displaced by war – by Barcelona and Poland star Robert Lewandowski.

Meanwhile, Chinese-American Olympic ski freestyle champion Eileen Gu clinchd World Action Sportsperson accolade.

The awardees:
World Sportsman of the Year: Lionel Messi.
World Sportswoman of the Year: Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce.
World Team of the Year: Argentina men's football team.
World Breakthrough of the Year: Carlos Alcaraz.
World Comeback of the Year: Christian Eriksen.
World Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability: Catherine Debrunner.
World Action Sportsperson of the Year: Eileen Gu.
Sport for Good: TeamUp (A programme for children displaced by war by Barcelona) and Robert Lewandowski.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Pavandeep, Lithik bat well as Play Smart triumphs

Half-centuries from R. Pavandeep (58) and Lithik Reddy (55) helped Play Smart defeat KCC Gurukul by 71 runs and lift the Tiger Cup under-12 trophy here on Tuesday.

The score (final): Play Smart 194/5 in 30 overs (R. Pavandeep 58, Lithik Reddy 55, Gagan Yashpal 40) bt KCC Gurukul 123/7 in 30 overs (Niraj 28).

Champs: The victorious Play Smart team. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Mahto and Santhosh do the 'trick

Hat-tricks from Mahto and Santhosh helped Gouthama FC blank Crescent FC 8-0 in the BDFA C-division football league here on Tuesday.

The results: Maharaja Scocials FC 2 (Deepan Mohan 51, Vinidh 54) bt Revive FC 0; Agaram FC 1 (Karan 38) bt Freedom FC 0; Jai Bharath Nagar FC 6 (Sandesh 2, 12, Arun 30+1, Rakshith 42, 60+2, Hitesh 60) bt United FA, Banaswadi 0; Gouthama FC 8 (Mahto 14, 51, 56, Santhosh 30, 57, 58, S.K. Irfan (OG) 40, Sathya Raj 54) bt Crescent FC 0.

Hockey trials for junior men's National championship

Hockey Karnataka will conduct trials on May 12 at the Hockey Stadium to select the men's team for the 13th Hockey India Junior Men's National Championship scheduled to be held at Rourkela, Odisha from June 12 to 22. Players born on or after January 1, 2004 are eligible to participate.

Bank of Baroda triumphs

Aravind top-scored with 24 points as Bank of Baroda defeated Young Orions SC 80-67 to win the State A-division men's basketball title here on Monday.

In the youth category, HBR BC Mounts Club were crowned the boys' and girls' champions respectively.

The results: A-div: Bank of Baroda 80 (Aravind 24, Karthik 23, Harish 14) bt Young Orions SC 67 (Arjun 21, Pratham 15, Gautam 11).

Youth: Semifinal league: Boys: PPC 60 (Aagneya 25, Akshath 17) bt Beagles BC 50 (Harshan 13); HBR BC 50 (Samveg 26, Dishal 12) bt All Star Academy Mysore 36 (Ryan S. George 15).

Girls: Mounts Club 73 (Nidhi 23, Nakshatra 21, Nilaya 12) bt S. Blues 68 (Nidhi 31, Diya 22); Bangalore Vanguards 44 (Nydhile 14) bt DYES Mandya 38 (Sahana 13, Lavanya 11).

State-ranking TT tournament

Karnataka Table Tennis Association will conduct its first State-ranking of the 2023-24 season from May 18 to 21 at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium. Entries close on May 14 (8 p.m.). *Visit https://karnatakatt.web.app/home.*

Everton's goal spree lifts it out of relegation

EURO LEAGUES

Associated Press
LONDON

Chaos reigned in the English Premier League's relegation battle on Monday as Everton scored five goals in a surprising win to climb out of the bottom three and Leicester conceded five in a confidence-sapping loss to drop into it.

Southampton's 11-year stay in the top division is surely over, meanwhile, after a 4-3 loss at Nottingham Forest plunged the last-placed team eight points from safety with three games left.

There was a total of 21 goals in three games involving relegation-threatened teams, who appeared to take the view that attack was the best form of defence with time running out in the fight to avoid the drop.

Everton's goal spree was the most surprising.

A 5-1 victory at Brighton came out of nowhere, ending a seven-game winless run at the home of a team that had an outside shot at Champions League qualification.

Two-goal hero: Everton's McNeil scored a brace. REUTERS

Wild win

Even wilder was Fulham's 5-3 win over Leicester, which is in danger of going down just seven years after capturing the league title in one of the greatest sporting stories of all time.

On Sunday, Arsenal reclaimed the top spot in the Premier League table by defeating Newcastle United 2-0 at St. James' Park.

The results:
Serie A: Empoli 2 (Cambiaghi 38, Caputo 63) bt Salernitana 1 (Piatek 85); Udinese 2 (Pereyra 9, Masina 34) bt Sampdoria 0; Sassuolo 1 (Berardi 15) drew with Bologna 1 (Dominguez 42).
Premier League:
On Monday: Fulham 5 (Willian 10, 70, Vinicius 18, Cairney 44, 51) bt Leicester 3 (Barnes 59, 89, Maddison 81-pen); Brighton 1 (Mac Allister 79) lost to Everton 5 (Doucoure 1, 29, Steele 35-og, McNeil 76, 90+6); Nottingham Forest 4 (Awoniyi 18, 21, Gibbs-White 44-pen, Danilo 73) bt Southampton 3 (Alcaraz 25, Lyanco 51, Ward-Prowse 90+5-pen).
On Sunday: Newcastle 0 lost to Arsenal 2 (Odegaard 14, Schar 71-og).

Generally, a bad ball is just a bad ball; no one plays to lose

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

It is now a fact of life that when a player has a bad day on the field at the IPL, he will be trolled by his team's fans, by neutrals, and anybody with a social media account. The latest to receive the full blast of public opprobrium is Rajasthan Royals' Sandeep Sharma who bowled a no-ball and conceded a last-ball six to allow Sunrisers Hyderabad to squeak through.

No one plays to lose (we won't get into the seamier side of sport here, although some of the trolls raised it), so the suggestion made in frustration by many who assume that professional sportsmen are not interested in winning is pure hogwash. But this is a line of criticism often heard from disappointed fans.

Occam's razor

Some of the logic is convoluted, the conspiracy theories flow easily. In sport, however, Occam's razor applies: the simplest explanation is usually the right one. Sandeep Sharma bowled badly. He bowled a no-ball and gave away a free hit.

Often when I hear a player being criticised unfairly, I cringe, although I have been a professional critic now for four decades. The difference between the near-unplayable ball and the one that is hit for six is often so slight that it might not even be visible to the naked eye. Good batters strike off average deliveries; great batters convert good deliveries into runs.

Yet the difference between the average and the good isn't a lot, just a matter of millimetres. The unplayable delivery is a mythical beast, but the great delivery exists, although not every great delivery is guaranteed a wicket.

The theories I hear from people who ought to know better (including experts on television), and the reactions on social media suggest that often those who make emotional comments fail to realise what a subtle art cricket is, and how delicate the balance between success and failure can be.

Everybody has an opinion on cricket, which is excellent and a sign of its popularity. But not everyone is informed well enough to have an opinion. Yet, every shade of opinion affects the performer, even if he insists that it doesn't.

Some years ago, there was a programme on television that sought to fix blame on a day's poor performance on an individual or group of individuals. Leading ex-players acted as judges, and played to the gallery, making controversial statements often unbacked by evidence. It was then the most popular programme among players who prayed daily they wouldn't be the ones to be drawn and quartered.

Not a natural sport

Cricket is not a natural sport like football or athletics. It involves getting into unnatural poses. The fast bowler, for instance, runs up full-face to the batsman but as he approaches the wicket he leaps, gets sideways and has to stop abruptly behind a line while delivering the ball without bending or straightening his arm.

The pressure on the lower back, shoulders, knees, ankles is great. The number of muscles involved in this, and the play of these muscles against one another to ensure everything flows smoothly are elements that don't figure in casual discussions on the game.

Coaches are fond of saying that cricket is a game played sideways. That is unnatural to begin with. Batters look at the approaching bowler over their left shoulder (if they are right handed) and have little time to think as the ball approaches them at speeds above 140 kmph. They have a split second to decide on and execute their shot, ensure they are protected from injury while doing so and keep track of the field placings, the possibilities and likely intentions of the bowler. All these work at just below the conscious level or the batter would run out of time.

The question is not whether critics on social media can do a better job, but whether they are even aware of the hundreds of small decisions which hold up the big decision that is made ball after ball, innings after innings, match after match, season after season for both batter and bowler.

Since the audience for cricket in our country runs into millions – there are more players and fans than there are chemists and accountants, artists and writers - perhaps it is time our universities introduced a course in cricket appreciation. If that is too restrictive, sports appreciation, perhaps. It could take its place alongside art and film appreciation courses.

It might not end the trolling, but we might get a better class of trolls!

Securing the migrant vote

Sanjay Kumar
is Professor at the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS)

Aaliyia Mallik
is a researcher with Lokniti-CSDS

Vibha Attri
is a researcher with Lokniti-CSDS

After several weeks of intense election campaigning by all the political parties, today is the day for the voters of Karnataka to exercise their franchise. As per a report in this newspaper, the number of migrants in Karnataka increased from the previous decade. Also, 42.12% of Greater Bengaluru's population originates from outside the district or the State. Given this large migrant population in Karnataka, Lokniti-Centre for the Study of Developing Societies conducted a study between April 28 and May 1 among the migrant voters of Bengaluru to find out their voting patterns.

Apprehensions of workers

Our study in the localities of migrant workers from north and north-east India showed that nearly 99% of them were not registered as voters in Karnataka. Most of these workers who live in houses near power mills or in makeshift arrangements near construction sites continued to retain their names on the voter lists of their home constituencies. Some of them were not able to adequately exercise their political voting rights due to geographical constraints; they found it difficult to travel home for every election. A migrant labourer from West Bengal said, "I went back home once to vote and I didn't go twice. I will go back to vote during the next Lok Sabha election."

Migrant workers across India are often apprehensive about registering themselves as voters in any other State apart from their home State. This is due to various reasons such as frequent changes in residence, fear of losing property in their home State, and their inability or unwillingness to bring their families with them as well. We found very few migrants (less than 5%) whose families were living with them. On being asked why this was the case, the migrants said their localities were not safe for women. A migrant shop owner said, "We are all men here, so we can't bring our families. It's not safe."

The Election Commission of India (ECI)'s proposal for introducing Remote Voting Machines (RVMs) seeks to extend voting facilities to such migrant workers who find it difficult to travel to their native place to vote, and thus prevent the loss of votes. Some political parties objected to RVMs, saying the ECI has not responded to pending complaints and questions about the trustworthiness of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs). While there was little awareness among the migrant workers about the ECI's proposal to introduce RVMs, 80% of them supported the proposal when they were told about it. They were happy that RVMs would enable them to vote there and that they would not have to go home to vote. A barber from Bihar said, "If what you're saying is true, it will be great, especially for us. Paying rent and then going home and coming back is a waste of money. If this is the plan, it's a good one."

Less than 10% expressed their apprehensions about this mode of voting. Many voiced their concerns and anxieties about the system's accuracy. A mill worker from Uttar Pradesh said, "I will only cast my vote from my village. I don't trust that machine." Another worker said, "It shouldn't be like this because we don't know whether the vote is actually going to the person we voted for."

These statements show an acknowledgement of the ECI's move, but also bring to light the lack of dialogue around the procedure and viability of RVMs. The study shows that the RVM initiative is a much-needed one for many, but it requires an additional push. For remote voting to materialise as a good alternative for the lakhs of migrant workers across the country, it needs more thought and greater transparency.

It was reassuring that despite the difficulties involved in casting their vote or their inability to do so, the respondents greatly valued their voting rights. They said it was their duty and responsibility to vote as citizens of the country. They also said to vote is important in a democracy. A labourer from Malda in West Bengal said, "It is a necessity for us to cast our vote. We are Indians and this is a priority for us."

The migrants said none of them had ever received money or goods or services from any candidates or parties in exchange for their vote. They said they travelled back to their home States without any support or expectations.

A minimum standard of living

The study also indicated the involuntary choices that migrant workers have to make in order to maintain a minimum standard of living. Many of the migrant workers from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Assam, who were living in Bengaluru and its outskirts, said low and irregular wages and lack of opportunities in their home States were motivating and compelling reasons for them to move to a new place without their families. Even though a sizeable proportion of the migrant workers had worked in Bengaluru for decades, they were happy to move to their home States if they were offered comparatively lower pay. The most popular reason for this was to be closer to home and to their families and meet fewer expenses. A labourer from Cooch Behar, West Bengal, said, "In a month, if I earn ₹30,000 here and if in West Bengal I earned ₹15,000-20,000, I would still work there, for I would be at home. Why would I come this far?"

Lakhs of migrants who left their homes in search of livelihoods live in places far from the heart of the city. Not only have they left their home States, they have also given up on significant rights. While elections are an opportunity for people to exercise their fundamental rights, the votes of migrant voters have been missing for years. While the ECI's move provides a ray of hope to millions of migrant workers, two crucial priorities ahead are to create awareness about the initiative and ensure transparency.

While the Election Commission's RVM proposal provides hope to millions of migrant workers, two crucial priorities ahead are to create awareness about the initiative and ensure transparency

Upsetting the apple cart in Himachal

Artificial Intelligence-linked apple production is disrupting the sector

STATE OF PLAY

Tikender Singh Panwar

The use of high-density varieties of apple and artificial intelligence (AI) in production, it is widely considered, has benefits such as increased capital investment and mechanisation, but it is also causing a major disruption in the industry in Himachal Pradesh.

Apple production plays a major role in the State's economy and in granting employment. Recent developments in science, technology and germination have ushered in major transformations in the sector. In 1950-1951, 500 ha of land were under apple production; this rose to 5,025 ha by 1960-61; and 1,15,016 ha by 2021-22.

Last year, the increasing cost of production and the increase in the Goods and Services Tax on cartons triggered protests in the State. The big players have already entered the market and are influencing the purchase of the crop. This unrest was one of the reasons for the party's loss in the Assembly polls last December. The current Congress government has announced the implementation of the Agriculture Produce Market Committee and universal cartons for apple packaging.

However, the changes in production are continuing to disrupt the sector. In Gumma in the Kotkhai region, a rich farmer, Vishal Shangta, experimented with new imported varieties from a nursery in Italy. He sowed 1,500 plants over 4,000 sq m. These saplings were rootstocks. The difference between the conventional method of plantation and the new varieties is that the earlier plants would

mature in 10-12 years whereas the rootstock varieties start bearing fruit in three years. The cost of planting 1,500 rootstocks is nearly ₹30 lakh, and the plantation is done in a protected environment. The cropping method is highly mechanised. Earlier, saplings were planted on hilly slopes or in fields, whereas the new ones are planted in proximity, with the base covered by artificial material to ensure that water is conserved and the growth of weeds is checked. Under this new method of cultivation, production is twice as much as what the conventional method yielded.

AI plays a pivotal role in production. Fasal, an AI Bengaluru-based company which has investors from Singapore and Australia, is providing the basic architecture of AI to map the soil moisture, read the IMD portal and advise the farmer on providing nutrients and water to the plant. The apple grower from Gumma showed me the app to explain the health of his plants. Fasal collates all the data.

Professor Vijay Singh, former Vice Chancellor of Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, says the major problem with these plants is that they cannot survive without continuous water. This is because the roots of the rootstocks are shallow. On average, 10 litres of water are required for each plant every week, and the method used is drip irrigation.

These high-density varieties are making massive inroads into Himachal. Rich farmers are shifting to this form of production where the capital cost of investment varies between ₹30 lakh and ₹1 crore depending on the size of the farm. They cite the examples of China, Europe, and the U.S., where the per-hectare yield is almost five times that of India, to argue that there is no other alternative but to shift to this form of production.

But 95% of the apple farmers cannot bear the burden of this transformation. The effects of this transformation will soon start showing, explains Prof. Singh, as most of them have started tapping water legally and illegally through boring, which could disturb the ecosystem. Further, geographical and environmental variations are unpredictable. This year, unseasonal rains could severely impact production. With these variations, it is difficult to ensure a set pattern of cropping. This transformation also points to the near-complete failure of government agencies, particularly the extension centres of horticulture universities and the much-touted Krishi Vigyan Kendras. It is YouTubers who are the guiding leaders of this transformation, not faculty from universities.

The rootstock plants are not natural. Only time will tell whether they will be able to bear the effects of climate change and help the farmers. But what is known is that there is a rapid transformation from mass horticulture production to a class of rich producers.

Tikender Singh Panwar is a former elected deputy mayor of Shimla and an urban practitioner. He was also president of Himachal Kisan Sabha

Are government healthcare workers paid enough to be retained?

The basic pay of front line health workers in the public sector is 1% lower than their private counterparts

DATA POINT

The Hindu Data Team

A data blog published by the World Bank argues that the wages given to front line healthcare workers in the public sector are not competitive enough to attract qualified candidates. The problem is more acute in low- and middle-income countries where the governments face rising public debt and are forced to reduce public spending. The blog argues that to strike a balance between these policy goals, reliable data and evidence are needed, considering the workforce-heavy aspect of healthcare services delivery.

About 64% of all paid healthcare workers are employed in the public sector worldwide, with 75% in Europe and Central Asia, and 49% in Latin America and the Caribbean. This can be largely attributed to some historical reasons and the restricted capacity or demand for private healthcare services, particularly in developing nations. **Chart 1** shows public sector employees as a share of paid employees in the healthcare industry across select regions.

In healthcare systems worldwide, a greater proportion of employees work in administrative roles compared to direct patient care roles. Over 75% of personnel in Europe and Central Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa perform administrative tasks rather than attending to patients directly, potentially leading to resource allocation imbalances. Restructuring administrative operations and reducing costs might allow for a more efficient distribution of resources towards patient care. **Chart 2** shows the share of medical and non-medical staff in the public healthcare workforce across select regions.

In most countries, public healthcare employees earn a wage premium compared to their private sector equivalents, with an average basic pay that is 21% higher **(Chart 3A)**. The extent of this premium relies on the job composition and characteristics of public sector health workers. However, if we focus only on front line personnel, this premium turns into a wage penalty. The basic pay of front line health workers in the public sector is 1% lower than their private counterparts **(Chart 3B)**. These charts show that the administrative staff of public health care are paid much higher than their private counterparts, but it is the reverse if only front line health workers in the public sector are considered. This could be due to salary caps and other limitations on earnings, while the private sector may have the capacity to provide higher salaries and bonuses to recruit skilled front line employees such as doctors.

A majority of administrative and medical staff positions in the public sector are held by women **(Chart 4A)**. However, women predominantly occupy lower-level roles. Women comprise nearly 84% of the 28.5 million nurses and midwives worldwide, but they are outnumbered by men when it comes to doctors. Gender stereotypes impact hiring practices, says the blog.

In terms of wage disparities, women in the public sector get a 30% wage premium, on average, compared to all paid employees. However, this premium is 7% if only female healthcare employees of the public sector are considered. Furthermore, this premium falls to just 2% if only female front line workers of the public sector are considered **(Chart 4B).**

The wage premium for women in the public sector compared to the private sector may indicate a dedication to ensuring equitable wages and benefits. Nevertheless, the smaller premium for female healthcare employees in comparison to all salaried workers suggests that compensation policies may still need improvement.

Mind the pay gap

The charts are sourced from the World Bank's data blog titled, 'Data-driven policies to improve management of healthcare workers', published on May 5, 2023

Chart 1: Public sector employees as a share of paid employees in the healthcare industry

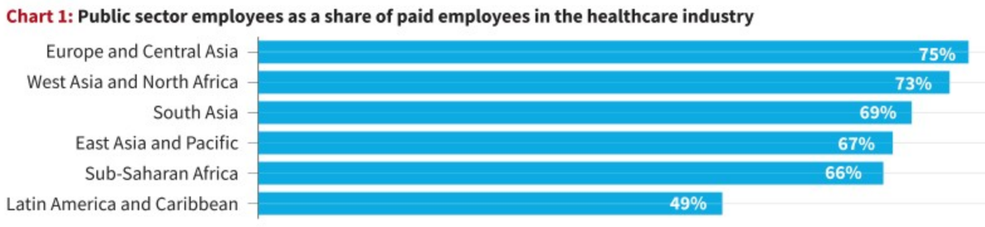


Chart 2: Public sector healthcare workforce by function

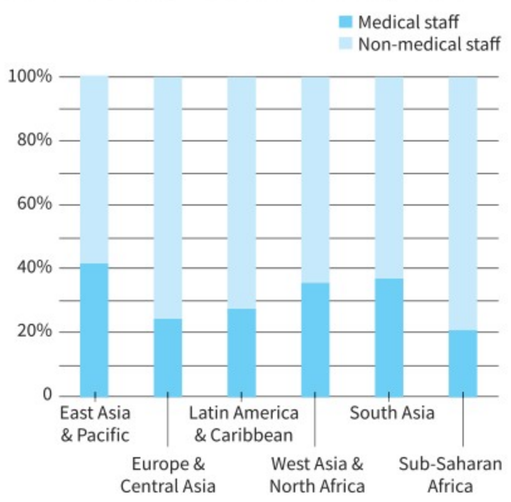


Chart 3: Public sector wage premium for healthcare

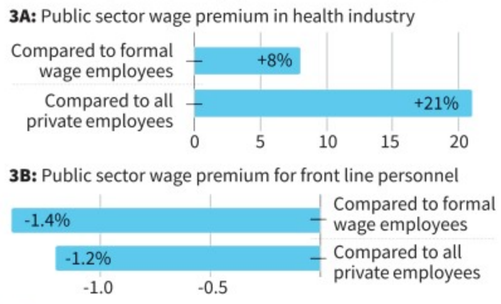
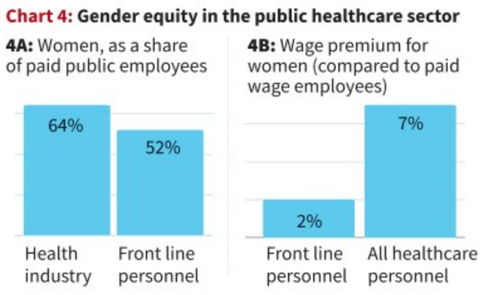


Chart 4: Gender equity in the public healthcare sector



The authors of the blog published in worldbank.org are Zahid Hasnain, Faisal A. Baig, Turkan Mukhtarova and Flavia Sacco Capurro

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO MAY 10, 1973

Great rush in Bombay hotels

Bombay, May 9: Irregular supply of rationed foodgrains, high cost of vegetables and shortage of bread have forced many families here, particularly in the middle income group, to have their dinner in hotels. There is great rush at the moderately priced hotels late in the evenings.

Enquiries disclose that because of the shortage of bread the Irani restaurants are always crowded. People in the lower income group are patronising these restaurants at great strength because of the bread preparations made available here.

But even here, the owners at times put up boards stating "Bread not available." At some of the restaurants, only a half loaf is given to customers instead of the usual full loaf. Their complaint is that the flour mills are not getting the full quota of wheat.

Because of the heavy rush, the hotel owners fear that if the present situation continues they would find it difficult to supply "Thali," which consists of rice, chapathi and four or five dishes, and they might be forced to enhance the rates of "Thali."

They also say that the prices of vegetables and food articles have risen to a new high in the last fortnight. Most of the hotel owners buy their requirements in black market because the supply by authorised Government ration shops is inadequate.

Those who take non-vegetarian food are also put to difficulties because of the continued butchers' strike. They are forced to buy eggs to supplement their diet. Consequently, the price of eggs has gone up.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO MAY 10, 1923

Restoring communication

Since Sunday last, Burma is practically isolated from India with regard to telegraphic communication as a result of a severe storm in the bay. Every effort has been made by the Rangoon telegraph staff under the superintendence of Mr. Perry E. Rosemeyer to minimise inconvenience to the public and to restore communication. One line has been opened to communication and traffic is being resumed.

From Page One

Imran Khan arrested, protests erupt in Pak.

The case is that of an alleged settlement between the PTI government, which was ousted from power in April last year through a no-confidence vote, and property tycoon Malik Riaz, causing a loss of £190 million to the national exchequer.

In a press conference on Tuesday, Federal Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah said a laundered amount of £190 million that belonged to a "property tycoon" [Malik Riaz] was caught in the U.K. by Britain's National Crime Agency (NCA) and sent to the government. According to the law, "this amount rightfully belonged to the people of Pakistan", said Mr. Sanaullah. Mr. Khan and others are accused of getting a property registered in the trust's name as a quid-pro-quo by Mr. Riaz's real estate company Bahria Town. Mr. Sanaullah alleged that the Al-Qadir Trust was established to hide 'bribery'.

Mr. Khan was taken to Rawalpindi for questioning at the offices of the National Accountability Bureau, according to police and government officials. Visuals from several cities in Pakistan on social media showed PTI protesters coming out in support of Mr. Khan. Some visuals showed PTI supporters inside the Corps Commander House in Lahore, vandalising the premises. PTI leader Asad Umar said on *ARY News* that violence is not part of Mr. Khan's politics. "The most popular leader of the largest political party has been illegally arrested. Protest is our democratic right but Khan has never supported violence."

Senior journalist and anchorperson Mohammad Malick said things can never return to business-as-usual between the Army and Mr. Khan, regardless of who commands the GHQ. Mr. Malick added that with the Supreme Court also soon getting a rather 'unfriendly' chief justice, "things may be far tougher than many imagine them to be".

Senior journalist Saleem Safi said that initially, there was confusion on both sides whether Mr. Khan and the military establishment would have a face-off. "Now, it is a real test for both sides after what happened on Tuesday. The biggest challenge for Khan is that he is popular in public, but his party's second-tier leadership is mostly pro-establishment and a lot of them are not ready for a confrontation with the establishment," he said.

24 killed as bus falls off a bridge in M.P.

The Minister also suspended a local transport official. It is learnt that the driver and cleaner of the bus are among the deceased.

Investigators said that the overloading angle was also being looked into. The bus belongs to a private travel company.

The State government announced immediate financial assistance of ₹4 lakh each to the families of the deceased, ₹50,000 each to the seriously injured and ₹25,000 each to those who received minor injuries in the accident.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's office also said that an *ex gratia* of ₹2 lakh from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund would be given to the next of kin of each deceased and that the injured would be given ₹50,000.

"The road accident in Khargone is very saddening. My condolences to those who have lost their loved ones in this accident. Also, I wish speedy recovery to all the injured. Under the supervision of the State government, the local administration is providing all possible help on the spot," Mr. Modi was quoted as saying in a tweet by the PMO.

Curfew relaxed for four hours in riot-hit Manipur

Army and Central paramilitary forces continue strict vigil in sensitive and vulnerable areas of the State; Mizoram MP urges PM Modi to send a 'joint parliamentary team' for an independent probe

Abhinay Lakshman
Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

As violence-hit Manipur largely remained incident-free on Tuesday, a Rajya Sabha member from Mizoram wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi that a 'joint parliamentary team' which includes Christian members of Parliament be constituted and sent to the affected areas to carry out an independent investigation.

Meanwhile, two civil society groups of Manipuri people, representing the State's Meitei community, on Tuesday held a press conference in New Delhi, saying that the narrative around the violence that broke out in Manipur needed to be corrected from one that solely blamed Meitei people.

The authorities in four districts – Churachandpur, Imphal West, Jiribam, Thoubal – of Manipur relaxed curfew for four hours on Tuesday to enable the people to procure essentials and medicines, as personnel of the Army and Central paramilitary forces continued strict vigil in the sensitive and vulnerable areas. Sixty-five people were killed and around 35,000 were displaced. But mobile Internet services, suspended on May 3, would continue till May 13, officials said.

At stake: People waiting at a shelter in a military camp, after being evacuated by the Army, as they flee ethnic violence in Manipur. AFP

K. Vanlalvena, a Rajya Sabha member from the Mizo National Front (MNF), said that on May 3, the first day of the violence, angry mobs went on a rampage in Imphal area and houses, shops, vehicles belonging to the non-Meitei communities were set on fire.

"In addition to these, it needs to be pointed out that not less than 42 churches were set on fire and amongst these, six churches belonging to the local Meitei Christian community were also not spared," the letter stated.

He said it was evident that the seemingly random act of violence perpetrated on that fateful day was not a spontaneous burst of outrage by one community against another but rather "a calculated and pre-meditated move on the part of the perpetrators to specifically target the Christian community, including the local Meitei Christian Community of Imphal." He said there was a strong possibility of the recurrence of such violence.

Violence and arson broke out across parts of Manipur after a 'Tribal Solidarity March' on May 3 called by the All Tribal Students' Union of Manipur to oppose the demand for inclusion of the Meitei community in the Scheduled Tribe category.

(With inputs from Rahul Karmakar)

Both State, Centre responsible for riots in Manipur: Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Jairam Ramesh

Citing Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud's comment on the Manipur High Court not having any power to make changes to the list of Scheduled Tribes (ST), the Congress on Tuesday said the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government in the State could not escape responsibility for the violence and deaths in the State.

"In light of what the CJI has said, it's astonishing what a single judge of Manipur High Court did – triggering such a human tragedy! But the ideological brotherhood, its henchman in Manipur, and his masters at the Centre cannot escape their responsibility," Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh tweeted.

On Monday, the CJI said that it was the President and not the court who had the power to designate a community as Scheduled Tribe and asked why a Constitution Bench verdict of 2000 noting that courts do not have power to "add or subtract" the ST list was not "shown" to the Manipur High Court.

Addressing a press conference, Abhishek Singhvi, senior advocate in the Supreme Court and Congress spokesperson, said the violence escalated after a single-judge Bench of the Manipur High Court directed the State government to consider the inclusion of the Meitei community in the ST list expeditiously, preferably within a period of four weeks.

Sixty-five people have been killed in violent clashes between tribal people and the majority Meitei community.

Court awards 20-year jail term to two for gang rape during Muzaffarnagar riots

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

It is the first case that recognises gang rape during communal violence as a specific offence

A trial court in Muzaffarnagar on Tuesday convicted two men, Maheshvir and Sikander, for the gang rape of a Muslim woman during the communal riots that shook the western Uttar Pradesh town in September 2013.

In the first conviction for gang rape during the riots that left over 60 people dead and hundreds homeless, the accused have been awarded 20 years of rigorous imprisonment and ₹10,000 in fine under Section 367D of the Indian Penal Code.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Anjani Kumar Singh also convicted the two accused for 10 years of imprisonment under Section 376 (2)(g) of the IPC, and a fine of ₹5,000 and two years of imprisonment under Section 506 of the IPC. The third accused Kuldeep died during the court proceedings.

Setting an example

The woman, who was one among the seven who had alleged that they were raped during the Muzaffarnagar riots, could not hold her tears when she held the copy of the order in her hands.

"Though the judgment has come after a wait of 10 years, I am happy that justice has prevailed and I hope that my case serves as an example and a source of strength to other women victims who were till now afraid to seek justice," the rape survivor said.

The matter pertains to September 8, 2013 when the woman, who was living in Muzaffarnagar district which was affected by communal riots, was fleeing from her home along with her three-year-old ailing son.

As she hid in sugar cane fields, the accused, Kuldeep, Sikander and Maheshvir, raped her by taking her child at knifepoint. The accused also threatened the woman to kill her and her husband if she reported the matter. "This is one of the first cases of conviction under 376(2)(g) of the IPC which recognises rape during communal violence as a specific offence," said Senior Advocate Vrinda Grover.

Arab trains to carry Indian goods to Israeli port: Cohen

Kallol Bhattacherjee
Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

The UAE became the first Arab Gulf state to sign an agreement for normalisation with Israel in 2020

Arab train networks in future would be carrying Indian goods to the Israeli port of Haifa, said Israeli Foreign Minister Eli Cohen in New Delhi on Tuesday.

Addressing the India-Israel Business Forum organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Mr. Cohen announced support for increasing the number of Indian employees in Israel and urged for an early conclusion of a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between New Delhi and Tel Aviv.

"Our vision is that Israel, the Gulf Arab countries and India is the gate from the east to the west. The trade that will come from India will go to some Arab port and from there by train till Haifa port in Israel and from there to the markets in Europe," said Mr. Cohen laying out the outline of a new regional connectivity and trade in the West Asian region.

The visiting Minister's comment on railway transport is an early sign of the shape of the connectivity projects that are emerging in India's backyard in the West Asian region.

Mr. Cohen's visit to Delhi and Mumbai comes against the backdrop of growing interactions between India and Israel as the two sides are preparing for a possible visit from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to India.

HC rejects early hearing of caste-based survey case

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

The Patna High Court on Tuesday rejected the petitions filed by the Bihar government challenging the caste enumeration and economic survey in the State for hearing by the court before July 3.

A Division Bench led by Chief Justice K.V. Chandran decided to hear the case on that date only.

On May 4, the High Court issued an interim stay order on the ongoing caste-based survey. Following the stay, the State government filed a petition seeking early hearing of the case.

While passing the order, the Division Bench directed the State not to share and use the data collected during this period. The State can approach the SC with fresh application.

Common uniform in Army for officers from the rank of Brigadier from August 1

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Reflecting ethos: A standard uniform will ensure a common identity for all senior-rank officers, says a source. FILE PHOTO

In a significant move, the Army has decided to go for a common uniform for officers of the rank of Brigadier and above from August 1 irrespective of their parent cadre or regiment, military sources said on Tuesday.

The decision was taken after detailed deliberations during last month's Army Commanders' Conference and extensive consultations with all stakeholders, they said.

"In order to promote and strengthen common identity and approach in service matters amongst senior leadership, beyond the boundaries of regimentation, the Indian Army has decided to adopt a common uniform for Brigadier and above rank officers," said a source.

"This will also reinforce the Indian Army's character to be a fair and equitable organisation," the source added.

The changes will come into effect from August 1.

Common identity

The headgear, shoulder rank badges, gorget patches, belt and shoes of flag rank – Brigadier and above – will now be standardised in view of the decision, the sources said.

The flag-rank officers will now not wear any lanyards.

There will be no change to the uniform worn by Colonels and below-rank officers.

In the Army, officers of the rank of Brigadier and above are mostly posted at headquarters or establishments where those from all arms and services work and function together.

According to sources, a standard uniform will ensure a common identity for all senior-rank officers, while reflecting the true ethos of the Indian Army.

SC to hear appeal against screening of *The Kerala Story*

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday agreed to list on May 15 an appeal filed against the Kerala High Court's refusal to stay the screening of the film *The Kerala Story*.

Appearing before a Bench led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, senior advocate Kapil Sibal made a mentioning for the early listing of the appeal, saying the issues required the urgent attention of the top court.

Meanwhile, the makers of the film have approached the Supreme Court against the West Bengal government for banning its screening. The State had stopped the screening to avoid incidents of "hatred and violence".

The plea also challenged the Tamil Nadu government's move to place the State on high alert ahead of the release of the movie. The film makers said the State's action had led to theatres withdrawing the film.

'Artistic freedom'

Refusing to stay the release of the movie on May 5, the Kerala High Court had emphasised on "artistic freedom" and the need to strike a balance.

The High Court had watched the trailer and found nothing offensive against a particular community. It had said the movie made it clear that it was only "inspired by true events" and the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) had already cleared it for public viewing.

The Kerala Story tax-free in U.P., CM to watch it with entire Cabinet

The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh government on Tuesday declared the recently released film *The Kerala Story* tax-free in the State. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, while announcing the decision, also added that he would watch the movie with the entire State Cabinet at a special screening in Lucknow on May 12.

"*The Kerala Story* will be made tax-free in Uttar Pradesh," reads a tweet posted from the official Twitter handle of the CM Office. Uttar Pradesh becomes the second State after Madhya Pradesh to make the controversial film tax-free.

The ruling BJP leaders praised the movie with Deputy CM Keshav Prasad Maurya saying the movie shows the truth which every citizen of India should watch.

3 CPI(Maoist) cadres shot dead in Odisha

The Hindu Bureau
BHUBANESWAR

Three CPI(Maoist) cadres were killed during an exchange of fire with security forces in Odisha's Kalahandi district on Tuesday.

Acting on intelligence input, security forces launched a combing operation in the Taprang Reserve Forest in the Madanpur Rampur police station limits of Kalahandi district early in the morning.

The left-wing extremists, who are believed to be part of the Kandhamal-Kalahandi-Boudh-Nayagarh division of the CPI (Maoist), had first launched fire at security forces, the police said.

Security forces in Odisha were on high alert following the death of 10 District Reserve Guard jawans and a civilian driver in an improvised explosive device (IED) blast triggered by CPI(Maoist) cadres in Dantewada district in Chhattisgarh district last month. Kalahandi borders Chhattisgarh. After the incident, security forces have been apprehensive that some ultras could escape into Odisha.

APPEAL

Ms. Sri Mounika is 5 years old suffering from Acute Myeloid Leukemia. Her family is extremely poor and cannot afford the huge expenditure of Rs. 7,00,000/- to undergo Chemotherapy (1 Year) at Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai. She needs your blessings and Support. Donations sent by Ch/D.D. favouring **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged.** The donations sent through Ch/D.D/NEFT Transfer & GOOGLE PAY (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/c No: 60182010063310, IFSC No: CNRB0016018) favouring Women's Welfare Syndicate is exempted under 80G IT.

All correspondence is done through WWS, Regd Public Charitable Trust, Flat No.GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph: 044-42137401/ 28235324/ 7338978027.

E-Mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com
Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org **WWS**

Naveen meets Nitish, says no discussion on any alliance

The Hindu Bureau
BHUBANESWAR

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has remained non-committal on joining an Opposition front ahead of the Lok Sabha election.

"No discussion was held about alliance today [Tuesday]," he said after meeting his Bihar counterpart Nitish Kumar, who has been eliciting support from leaders of non-BJP leaders to come together a common platform.

"I am delighted that Nitish*ji* is in Bhubaneswar. We are old friends and colleagues ever since we both served in Atal Bihari Vajpayee's Cabinet together. We had discussion regarding land in Puri. About 1.5 acres of land will be given to the Bihar government free for tourists and pilgrims who come to Puri to visit the temple of Lord Jagannath," Mr. Patnaik said.

He has any never expressed national ambitions.

Pilot hits out at Gehlot over remarks on 2020 rebellion

It seems like the Rajasthan CM's 'real leader' is Vasundhara Raje of BJP and not Sonia Gandhi, says former Deputy CM; he announces 'Jan Sangharsh Yatra' to raise issue of corruption, paper leaks

The Hindu Bureau
JAIPUR

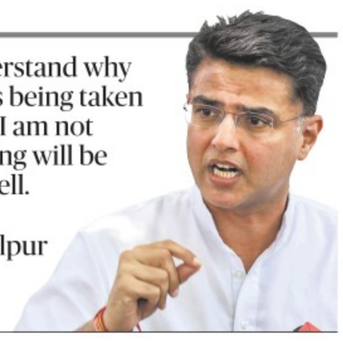
Congress leader and former Rajasthan Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot on Tuesday targeted Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot over his claim that some BJP leaders helped save his government during the 2020 rebellion.

Mr. Pilot said it seemed Mr. Gehlot's "real leader" was the BJP's Vasundhara Raje rather than his own party's Sonia Gandhi.

Mr. Pilot also announced that he would undertake a 125-km 'Jan Sangharsh Yatra' on foot from Ajmer, where the Rajasthan Public Service Commission is headquartered, from May 11, to raise the issue of corruption and paper leak of government recruitment exams.

The Tonk MLA's no-holds-barred attack came after Mr. Gehlot recently claimed in a speech in Dholpur that he survived the rebellion staged by Mr. Pilot and 18 other Congress MLAs in 2020 because Ms. Raje and two other BJP functionaries refused to support a conspiracy to topple his elected government through money power.

> Now I understand why no action is being taken [on graft charges]... I am not hopeful that anything will be done in future as well. It is clear from the CM's speech in Dholpur
>
> **SACHIN PILOT**
> Congress leader



Mr. Gehlot also accused Union Home Minister Amit Shah of paying crores of rupees to the rebel Congress MLAs as part of "horse trading" and asked them to return the money to him.

Mr. Pilot said the Chief Minister defamed senior MLAs who had spent over 30 years in public life.

"I reject these false and baseless allegations. It is condemnable," he said, while affirming that it was wrong to level charges against leaders from one's own party.

Mr. Pilot, who was sacked as the Deputy Chief Minister and Pradesh Congress president after his failed rebellion, has been raising the issue of alleged corruption during the previous BJP regime with the demand for action before the Assembly election scheduled to be held later this year.

While denying the charge that the dissident MLAs accepted money as bribe from the BJP, Mr. Pilot said he was the one asking Mr. Gehlot repeatedly to probe the graft cases during Ms. Raje's tenure. "Now I understand why no action is being taken... I am not hopeful that anything will be done in future as well. It is clear from the CM's speech in Dholpur," he said.

In New Delhi, AICC national spokesperson and Rajya Sabha member Abhishek Manu Singhvi refused to offer a direct answer on the war of words between Mr. Gehlot and Mr. Pilot and the latter's proposed anti-corruption yatra. "Our party will firm up its stand in the next 24 hours," Mr. Singhvi said.

It depends on who is giving the rating: Centre on India's rank in press freedom index

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

It was in response to SC's observation that India has fallen to 161st position out of 180 countries

Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the government in the Supreme Court on Tuesday, made light of India's fall to 161st position in press freedom ranking, saying "that depends on who is giving the rating. I can have my own forum and give India the first rating".

The remark was in response to the Supreme Court's observation that India has fallen to the 161st position out of 180 countries in the World Press Freedom Index published by the non-profit organisation, Reporters Without Borders. In 2022, India was ranked at 150.

India is ranked behind countries such as Afghanistan, Pakistan and Somalia.

"India is 161 in ranking in journalistic freedom," Justice K.M. Joseph, addressed the Union and Gujarat governments, represented by Mr. Mehta, during a hearing in the Bilkis Bano case.

Hearing on July 10

The exchange between Justice Joseph and Mr. Mehta came while the Supreme Court ordered the publication of a notice giving the details of the case and the next date of court hearing, July 10, in two vernacular papers in Gujarat to alert those unserved among the 11 convicts who were released prematurely from their life imprisonment. They had been found guilty of the gang rape of Ms. Bano and the murder of her family members. Ms. Bano and other writ petitioners have separately challenged their remission.

The discussion was on the choice of the two newspapers and their circulation in Gujarat. Mr. Mehta said there were local papers published daily evening in every city of Gujarat.

The hearing, at one point, saw the Supreme Court wonder whether some of the released convicts were making a "mockery" of or even "playing" with the court by either going incognito to hamper the serving of notice of the case on them or seeking time to file counter affidavits. Previous hearings have been a no go with lawyers for the men seeking adjournment on procedural grounds.

The court decided to publish the notice in the newspapers so that the convicts would not take the plea of ignorance and the case could go ahead and be heard on merits.

Same-sex couples, live-in partners not included in surrogacy laws: Centre in SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Centre in the Supreme Court has said that same-sex couples and live-in partners are not included in surrogacy and assisted reproduction laws to avoid 'misuse' and provide children a 'complete family'.

The Department of Health Research and the Indian Council of Medical Research, in a 131-page affidavit, said the welfare of the child "trumps any notions of equality amongst prospective/intending parents/couples".

It said though "the Supreme Court has decriminalised same-sex relations and live-in relations, neither any special provisions have been introduced with respect to same sex/live-in couples nor have they been granted any additional rights".

The government said the inclusion of live-in and same-sex couples within the ambit of the Surrogacy Act would lead to "misuse". "It would be difficult to ensure a better future for the child born through surrogacy," it said.

In a recent hearing of the same-sex marriage case, Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, heading the Constitution Bench, had remarked that same-sex couples could offer as stable and loving a home, if not better, to children as heterosexual married parents.

The response from the Centre is based on a petition filed by Chennai-based IVF specialist Arun Muthuvel, challenging several provisions of the Surrogacy Act, 2021 and the Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Act, 2021 as discriminatory and violative of the reproductive rights of women and an impediment to the right to privacy.

Traditions have not stopped concept of marriage from evolving: SC Bench

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI:

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said the Constitution has itself been a "tradition-breaker", and though tradition may have created the idea of heterosexual marriage, it has not been able to stop society from evolving and bringing changes to the very concept of marriage.

The Constitution has broken the once "hallowed traditions" of caste and religious discrimination, a five-judge Bench said.

The court is hearing petitions seeking a judicial declaration of the right to same-sex marriage."To the extent traditions created the institution of marriage, they are there. But we have to also be alive to the fact that the concept of marriage has evolved," Justice S. Ravindra Bhat observed.

The observations came in response to a submission by senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi that same-sex couples cannot overnight demand the opening of doors into the "social institution of marriage". They do not have a "fundamental right to marry" under the Constitution.

"Does the right to life under Article 21 have this concomitant of the right to marry? You say there is a right to marry under the Constitution, but that right is confined only to heterosexuals," Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud asked. The court said the Constitution did not "grant" people any rights. Fundamental rights like life, liberty, dignity, freedom of expression and choice, personal autonomy, etc, were inherent in every person. "The Constitution only recognised them," Justice Bhat said.

"To say there is no fundamental right to marry would be far-fetched," the Chief Justice observed.

IOCL clarifies on rail deal

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. has said the "rate contract conditions" for supply of high speed diesel to the Railways is "under discussion". Reacting to the report "Scam exposed in the purchase of diesel by Railways" in these columns on Tuesday, the firm claimed the payment released by the Railways was as per contract agreement.

राजस्थान स्कूल शिक्षा परिषद्
बहु-तल, ब्लॉक-6, डॉ.एस. राधाकृष्णन शिक्षा संकुल, जवाहर लाल नेहरू मार्ग, जयपुर।
फोन नं: 0141-2700459, E-Mail:- RAJSMSA.CIVIL@RAJASTHAN.GOV.IN

क्रमांक :- F-5(1)(187)RCSCE/Civil/SMSA/NIT/2023//Vol-21/D-622 दिनांक :- 05/05/2023

ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 03 (सिविल)/2023-24
(केजीबीवी में निर्माण कार्यों हेतु)

राज्य एवं केन्द्र सरकार के राजकीय/अर्द्धशासकीय/स्वायत्तशासी निकायों में सक्षम श्रेणी में निर्माण कार्यों हेतु पंजीकृत संवेदकों से समग्र शिक्षा वार्षिक कार्य योजना एवं बजट वर्ष 2022–23 एवं NABARD RIDF XXVIII/State Budget Head में स्वीकृत 03 केजीबीवी के निर्माण कार्यों हेतु राशि रू. 1017.06 लाख (प्रति कार्य की राशि रूपये 201.90 लाख से 407.58 लाख के मध्य) बाबत् कार्यवार ई–टेण्डरिंग के माध्यम से ई–निविदाऐं 09/05/2023 प्रातः 10.00 बजे से 30/05/2023 को सायं 6.00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है।

UBN No. :- RSE2324WSOB00158

- निविदा से सम्बधित समस्त विस्तृत विवरण वेबसाईट **http://rajsmsa.nic.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** एवं **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर देखा जा सकता है।
- निविदा से सम्बन्धित प्रक्रिया जिला परियोजना समन्वयक, समग्र शिक्षा कार्यालय सम्बन्धित जिला के स्तर से की जावेगी।

राज.संवाद/सी/23/1969 राज्य परियोजना निदेशक, समग्र शिक्षा

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : (1)162/2022-23/KWA/PHC/D2/TVM/RT2 (2) 21/2023-24/KWA/PHC/D2/TVM **(1)** Jal Jeevan Mission -PWD Road restoration work in Chenkal Grama Panchayath related to KWA works. **(2)**KIIFB Project -CWSS to Karode Kulathoor Chenkal Treated Drinking Water Project supplying & laying raw water, clear water pumping main and transmission main using D I K9 pipe. Construction of 17 LL OHSR at Chenkal and 10LL OHSR at Ambalikonam. **EMD:** Rs. (1) 2,00,000/- (2) 5,00,000/- **Tender fee :** Rs. (1) 13,010/- (2) 19,518/- **Last Date for submitting Tender :** 31-05-2023 03:00:pm **Phone :** :04712322303

Website : **www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**

Superintending Engineer,
KWA-JB-GL-6-224-2023-24 PH Circle, Thiruvananthapuram

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER: PWD: BUILDING: ASSAM: CHANDMARI: GUWAHATI-3
No. CE/Tech-II/74/2023/3

PRESS NOTICE

The Spl. Chief Engineer, PWD (Building) (Health & Education), Assam, on behalf of the Governor of Assam invites fresh bids from eligible contractors having requisite experience in similar nature of work, for the following work.

Detail of the bid may be seen at e-procurement portal website i.e. **www.assamtenders.gov.in.**
The bidder must be enrolled in **www.assamtenders.gov.in**

Sl. no.	Name of work	Bid value	Time of completion	Bid security	Cost of Bid
1	Infrastructure development of D.R. College, Golaghat	Rs. 3,68,77,681.00	18 (eighteen) Months	2% of bid value for General category, and 1% of bid value for reserved category	Rs. 7,380.00

N.B. Value of work may vary during uploading of DNIT for which no claim would be entertained.
The Press Notice will form part of Bidding Document.
Work Order will be issued after receiving of A/A from the competent Authority.

Spl. Chief Engineer, PWD (Building)
(Health & Education)
Chandmari, Guwahati-3

Janasanyog /C/2222/23

कोचीन शिपयार्ड लिमिटेड
(भारत सरकार का उद्यम)
COCHIN SHIPYARD LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)

संदर्भ/ REF :SB-OSD/HULL/758/2023 तिथि/Date : 10/05/2023

अभिरुचि की अभिव्यक्ति
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

कोचीन शिपयार्ड लिमिटेड (सीएसएल) निम्नलिखित कार्यों के लिए प्रतिष्ठित कंपनियों से "अभिरुचि की अभिव्यक्ति (ईओआई)" आमंत्रित करता है।

Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) invites "Expression of interest (EOI)" from reputed firms for the following work:

क्र.सं. S.No	विवरण Description
1	सीएसएल में पोत हल ब्लॉक के निर्माण केलिए स्टील प्लेट व फ्रोफाइल का प्रापण, और इसकी तैयारी, गठन, सब असेंबली का निर्माण और आपूर्ति Procurement of steel plates & profiles; and its preparation, forming, sub assembly fabrication and supply at CSL for the construction of ship hull blocks.

ईओआई प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि और समय दिनांक **31 मई 2023** अपराह्न **1400** बजे आईएसटी है।
The last date and time of receipt of EOI is **1400 hrs IST, 31st MAY 2023.**
ईओआई का विवरण और शर्तों को हमारी वेबसाइट: **www.cochinshipyard.in** या **https://eprocure.gov.in/cppp/** पर देखा जा सकता है।
The details and conditions of the EOI can be accessed from our web site: **www.cochinshipyard.in** or **https://eprocure.gov.in/cppp/.**

ह/Sd/-
मुख्य महाप्रबंधक / Chief General Manager
(पोत निर्माण / Ship building)

OFFICE OF THE ADDL. CHIEF ENGINEER (PROJ) W-II
THROUGH: DY. S.E. (PROJECT) W-I
DELHI JAL BOARD, GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI ROOM NO. 511, VARUNALAYA PHASE-I, KAROL BAGH, NEW DELHI-110005
E-mail Id:-ee1.djb@gmail.com Telephone No. 011-23681009

आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव

"STOP CORONA: Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene"
NIT NO- 01 (2023-24)

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Contract Value (ECV)/ Amount put to tender (Rs.)	Earnest Money (EMD (Rs.)	Tender processing Fee Non Refundable (Rs.)	Date of Release of Tender/ Tender Id	Last date/time of receipt of tender
1.	Dredging of silt from River Yamuna near intake in the DJB pondage area at Wazirabad water works	Item rate	15,50,000/-	Rs. 1500/-	09.05.2023/ 2023_ DJB_240694_1	01.06.2023 03:00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at **https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in.**
ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 27(2023-24) **Dy. SE (Project) W-I**

कार्यालय नगर परिषद्, पाली (राज.)

क्रमांक : प.12 ( ) विकास/इ.र.यो.ग्रामीण/2023/383 दिनांक 05/05/2023

संशोधित ई–निविदा सूचना (Corrigendum)

परिषद द्वारा जारी ई–निविदा सूचना क्रमांक **316** दिनांक **26.04.2023** में वर्णित तकनीकी बोली स्वीकार करने हेतु अनिवार्य शर्त संख्या **F.** अनुसार बोलीदाता/संवेदक की ओर से गत 3 वर्ष में प्रत्येक वर्ष कुल सभी सामग्री आपूर्ति का योग 50.00 लाख रुपये के कार्यादेश एवं अनुभव की शर्त को संशोधित करते हुए गत 3 वर्षों में प्रत्येक वर्ष में सामग्री की अनुमानित लागत राशि या उससे अधिक राशि का कार्यादेश/अनुभव का प्रमाण प्रस्तुत किया जाना अनिवार्य है, इसमें गत 3 वर्षों के कार्यादेश या अनुभव का कुल योग, उपापन की जाने वाली सामग्री की लागत राशि का 3 गुणा राशि अथवा अधिक राशि का प्रमाण प्रस्तुत किया जाना अनिवार्य है तथा शर्त संख्या **G.** अनुसार बोलीदाता/संवेदक की ओर से गत 3 वर्षों में प्रति वर्ष वित्तीय टर्नओवर न्युनतम 5.00 करोड़ रुपये की शर्त को संशोधित करते हुए गत 3 वर्षों में प्रत्येक वर्ष अनुमानित लागत राशि या उससे अधिक राशि का टर्नओवर चार्टेट अकाउन्टेंट के माध्यम से संलग्न एनेक्सर–ई के प्रारूप में प्रस्तुत किया जाना अनिवार्य है। साथ ही बिड डेटा शीट में वर्णित क्रम संख्या 5 Joint Venture / Consortium / Association of Bidders - Shall not be allowed की शर्त को भी विलोपित किया जाता है तथा बिड डेटाशीट में वर्णित क्रम संख्या 4 FOR Destination - Municipal Council, Pali के स्थान पर "संबंधित ग्रामीण इन्दिरा रसोई, संबंधित ग्रामीण कस्बा, संबंधित ग्राम पंचायत, संबंधित ब्लॉक विकास अधिकारी, पंचायत समिति/ संबंधित नजदीकी नगरीय निकाय, जिला–पाली" में आपुर्ति करना पढ़ा व समझा जावे। बिड डेटाशीट में वर्णित नोट क्रम संख्या 5 में District Project Manager Unit, Pali RGAVP के स्थान पर Commissioner, Municipal Council, Pali पढ़ा व समझा जावे। उक्त ई–निविदा सूचना के नियम व शर्त के क्रम संख्या 7 की निरन्तरता में बोली की शर्त संख्या 6 व 35 में तखतगढ़ के स्थान पर रानी खुर्द पढ़ा व समझा जावे। ई–निविदा सूचना के नियम व शर्त संख्या (7) में सामग्री आपुर्ति अवधि दो दिवस के स्थान पर सात दिवस पढ़ा व समझा जावे। बोली की शर्त संख्या 31 फर्म की सक्षमता की जांच हेतु 4 वर्ष की ऑडिट रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत करने की शर्त को विलोपित किया जाता है। उक्त ई–निविदा में वर्णित प्रत्येक आधारभूत सामग्री के उपापन में बोलीदाता/संवेदक को RTPP Rules 2013 के नियम 39 के समस्त प्रावधानों की पालना करते हुए उप नियम (4) बोली लगाने वाले की पात्रता के संबंध में माल का विनिर्माता, वितरक या सद्भावी व्यवहारी होना चाहिए और वह विनिर्दिष्ट रूपविधान में उसमे लिए आवश्यक सबूत देगा। जहां लागू हो वहां विनिर्माता या भारत में वितरक द्वारा प्राधिकार का सबूत संलग्न किया जावेगा। इस बाबत् बोलीदाता/संवेदक को अधिकृत प्रमाण प्रस्तुत किया जाना अनिवार्य है। आधारभूत सामग्री क्रम संख्या 2 फर्नीचर आपुर्ति की वित्तीय बिड की BOQ में सामग्री क्रमशः 1.01 स्टील टेबल (साईज 2' x 6' x 3') व 1.02 स्टील बैंच (साईज 1' x 6' x 1'6") के विवरण में अंकित Heavy Duty 302 Steel के Specification को स्पष्ट करते हुए निम्न प्रकार निर्धारण किया जाता है।

Stainless Steel Table Specification			Stainless Steel Bench Specification	
Size (L*W)	72 x 24 inch		Sheet Size (L*W)	72 x 12 inch
Table Height	36 inch		Bench Hight	18 inch
Table Standing Pipe	30 x 30 mm		Bench Standing Pipe	30 x 30 mm
Fram Border Pipe	25 x 25 mm		S.S. Sheet Grade	302 Stainless Steel
S.S. Sheet Grade	302 Stainless Steel		Gauge	18
Gauge	18		Special	All Material SS, 18 Gauge and 302 Grade.
Special	All Materral SS, 18 Gauge and 302 Grade.			

शेष समस्त शर्तें व नियम यथावत रहेंगी।

अधिशाषी अभियंता सिविल एवं
प्रभारी अधिकारी (इ.र.यो. ग्रामीण प्रकोष्ठ),
नगर परिषद् पाली

आयुक्त, नगर परिषद्, सचिव व कोशाध्यक्ष,
जिला स्तरीय समन्वय एवं मॉनिटरिंग समिति
(इ.र.यो. ग्रामीण), पाली

राज.संवाद/सी/23/2005

Office of the Commissioner
Ballari City Corporation, Ballari.
Gadigi Chennappa Circle(Royal Circle) Ballari-583101
Landline No : 08392-273479 /278168 Fax : 08392-273477
Website : www.ballaricity.mrc.gov.in
E-mail ID: bellarycommissioner@yahoo.co.in
No: BCC/SWM/LegacyWaste/01/2023-24 Date:08.05.2023

E-proc Tender Notification (Two Cover System)

The Commissioner, City Corporation Ballari, Karnataka State, invites tenders through E-procurement portal two bid cover system (Technical and Commercial bid) on the prescribed form for the following work.

Indent No: Indent No. BCC/SWM/ LegacyWaste/ 2023-24. **Name of Scheme project programme under which procurement is affected:** Disposal of Legacy Waste and Reclamation of Existing Dump Sites of Ballari City Corporation at Old Compost Yard, Rupanagudi Road and at Haraginadoni Sy.158 through Bio mining of Legacy Waste as per CPCB guidelines. Under Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban). **Amount put to Tender (Rs. In lakhs):** 2143.00. **EMD(Rs. In lakhs):** 21.43. **Period of Completion:** 12 months

1)Bids will be accepted only online at e-Procurement website : https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. 2)Last Date and Time of receipt of Tender is: 08.06.2023 up to 17:00hrs. 3)Date and Time of Opening of Tender: 12.06.2023 @ 11.00 Hours. 4)For further details of the tender can be obtained from this office Phone No.08392-273479 during office hours or in website https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Commissioner, Ballari City Corporation. Ballari.
DIPR/Ballari/02/MCA/2023-24

JOINT ENTRANCE EXAMINATION-2023, ODISHA
(OJEE-2023)

No:- 191/OJEE23 **Date: 04-05-2023**

NOTICE

OJEE web-based Counselling process for B.TECH/B.ARCH/ B.PLAN / Int. MSc courses will start tentatively in the 1st week of June, 2023. Hence, all students having **JEEMAIN CRL** (Common Rank List) in corresponding papers wish to take part in OJEE counselling for admission to B.TECH/B.ARCH/B.PLAN/Int. MSc courses in any Government or Private colleges of Odisha are to follow the OJEE Counselling process. Kindly keep in touch with OJEE website for detail information regarding last year cut-off ranks, counselling schedule, detail process and seat matrix.

OJEE website www.ojee.nic.in/ www.odishajee.com.

Students have to prepare all necessary documents required for the counselling process much in advance to avoid last date rush.

Certificates like resident/nativity, caste certificate, Income certificate for TFW claim shall be obtained through online from appropriate authority.

Sd/-
CHAIRMAN, OJEE

h-02 : OIPR-14020/11/0002/2324

INBRIEF

Murmu presents eight Kirti Chakras, 29 Shaurya Chakras

President Droupadi Murmu gave away eight Kirti Chakras, India's second-highest peacetime gallantry award, to Army and paramilitary personnel, at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on Tuesday. Sudip Sarkar, constable/GD, Border Security Force, Rohit Kumar, sergeant constable, Jammu and Kashmir Police, and one sub-inspector and two head constables of Chhattisgarh have been conferred the Kirti Chakra posthumously, the Defence Minister said. Three personnel, including Major Shubhang, Dogra Regiment, 62nd Battalion, from the Army's Rashtriya Rifles were given the honour. The President also presented 29 Shaurya Chakras, including five, posthumously. PTI

Govt. to start country-wide screening for thalassemia

The Union government will soon launch a national mission to tackle thalassemia, a genetically transmitted blood disorder, beginning with a country-wide screening exercise wherever required. At a public programme in the Sir Ganga Ram Hospital (SGRH) in New Delhi to mark World Thalassemia Day, NITI Aayog chief Vinod K. Paul said the model being used to screen people in tribal belts for sickle-cell disease would be put to use for thalassemia screening as well. Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda, who was present at the event, announced his government's commitment to work towards thalassemia prevention over the next 25 years.

'Poor security led to violence during procession in Odisha'

A committee appointed by BJP president J.P. Nadda to probe the communal violence on the eve of Hanuman Jayanti in Sambalpur in Odisha in April, has blamed it on "lack" of security arrangements. The four-member panel of MPs – Brij Lal, Samir Oraon, Aditya Sahu and Jyotirmay Singh Mahato – submitted its report to Mr. Nadda on Tuesday. The committee alleged that stones were thrown from mosques and rooftops at the Hanuman Jayanti procession on April 12, causing injuries to many people. It further alleged adequate security arrangements were not made despite Intelligence alert of likely violence.

Don't promote e-cigarettes, I&B Ministry tells media

The Information & Broadcasting Ministry on Tuesday warned the print media, TV channels, OTT (over-the-top) platforms and digital media against directly or indirectly promoting electronic cigarettes. "It has been brought to the notice by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare that in a recently organised Business Summit in New Delhi by a prominent media house, the forum was apparently used to promote electronic cigarettes," said the order. It was in violation of Section 4 of the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes (Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Transport, Sale, Distribution, Storage and Advertisement) Act, 2019, it said.

No end to humiliations of frisking for NEET aspirants

Several reports of candidates being forced to change their clothes before exam hall come out; National Testing Agency, which conducts the test, remains tight-lipped on students' complaints

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

Over 48 hours after reports of "humiliating frisking" at National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET-UG) exam centres surfaced, with some aspirants taking to Twitter to report the incidents, officials at the National Testing Agency (NTA), which conducts the exams, remain tight-lipped. NTA officials did not respond to queries by *The Hindu*.

Incidents of frisking have been reported from centres in Kolkata, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

A candidate from Kolkata tweeted, "The frisking process during NEET-UG, 2023 has subjected me to a level of indignation that I have never suffered before."

The aspirant said girls were asked to "change their pants, open their inner wear, and exchange clothes with their mothers.

Students seen outside a centre before appearing NEET exam, in New Delhi on Sunday. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

Also some boys went into the exam centre in inner wear as the pants they were wearing were not allowed. Since there was no place to change, parents had to stand around their children."

This is, however, not the first time that frisking of students has been reported. After complaints by students in 2017, the National Human Rights Commission issued a notice. The NHRC questioned the alleged harassment and inconvenience caused to aspirants in Tamil Nadu.

A girl student's discomfort at a NEET centre in Chennai on Sunday led to a furore on social media. "The girl was huddled in a corner looking embarrassed after the test. I asked her if she was okay," said a woman journalist to whom the candidate confided that she was not wearing a bra. The journalist shared her angst on a social platform. She said she offered her dupatta to the student, who refused saying her brother was on the way to pick her up. The journalist removed her post after "harassment".

An overseeing official in the city, however, denied the incident. "Clear cut instructions were given not to do any such thing. It is only metal detector frisking. The instruction given in the hall ticket is that they shouldn't wear such items, and 90% of the children abided by the instructions," he said.

This year, the NTA, in a 131-page bulletin, had specified barred items and provided detailed guidelines on dress code while stating that candidates will be subjected to extensive and compulsory frisking.

Though the NTA did not respond to the allegations, the agency has noted in its bulletin that "it believes in maintaining the sanctity and fairness of examinations, however, it also believes in sensitivity while frisking female candidates and will issue comprehensive instructions accordingly to the staff... at the examination centres".

(With inputs from R. Sujatha in Chennai)

Third cheetah dies in Kuno; number of adults down to 17

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

The death comes a day after a panel recommended that five more cheetahs be released from acclimatisation camp

A third cheetah, a female called Daksha, died at the Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh on Tuesday after it was injured during mating.

Daksha's death brings the total number of adult cheetahs in the park to 17. Sasha died in February and Uday in April.

Since September 2022, 20 animals – eight from Namibia and 12 from South Africa – have been translocated from Africa to restore cheetahs in the Indian wilderness. One of the animals has produced a litter of four cubs, all reportedly well.

"*Prima facie*, the wounds found on the female cheetah Daksha seem to have been caused by a violent interaction with a male, during a courtship/mating attempt. Such violent behaviour by male coalition cheetahs during mating are common. In such a situation, the chances of intervention by the monitoring team are almost non-existent and practically impossible," the Environment Ministry said in a statement.

The cheetah's death comes a day after an expert committee, constituted by the National Tiger Conservation Authority, coordinator of Project Cheetah, recommended that five more cheetahs be released from the acclimatisation camps into "free-roaming conditions" before the onset of the monsoon in June.

The decision to release two males into Daksha's enclosure followed a recommendation by this committee, said a press statement by J.S. Chauhan, Chief Conservator of Forests, Madhya Pradesh. The NTCA's Cheetah Action Plan says that an adult mortality of over 15% "would be a matter of concern for management to intervene".

Tagore's birth anniversary celebration overshadowed by protests at Santiniketan

Bishwanath Ghosh
KOLKATA

In the Rabindranath Tagore-founded Visva-Bharati, protests overshadowed celebrations on the poet's birth anniversary as a large group of people continued their sit-in against the university's move to take away a piece of land from the Santiniketan house of Nobel laureate Amartya Sen.

The university had initially planned a number of events for the poet's birthday, but closer to the date it not only pruned the number of events but also announced the closure of Rabindra Bhavana for the day "due to unavoidable circumstances".

On April 19, the university had issued an order asking Professor Sen to vacate, within 15 days, as many as 13 decimals of land from his Santiniketan house.

"Visva-Bharati should remember that the vast tract of land they enjoy was primarily given to them by the community. Even the land in question was donated to the Visva-Bharati. The Sen family has been occupying this land when Visva-Bharati was not a Central government university. Even if there is any truth to their claim, they should have been benevolent and resolved the matter," educationist Sudipta Tagore, a former student of Visva-Bharati and a member of the Tagore family, told *The Hindu*.

Fete curtailed: Only those who took part in the procession from the Upasana Griha were allowed to enter Rabindra Bhavana. ANI

The protesters, who have the backing of the Trinamool Congress government, celebrated the poet's birth anniversary by singing, dancing and holding a recitation outside of Professor Sen's house.

"We vehemently condemn the Vice-Chancellor's unprecedented act of cancelling major programmes of Rabindra Jayanti and closing the Rabindra Bhavana museum for tourists.," said Sudipta Bhattacharyya, president of Visva-Bharati University Faculty Association.

Shah's remark that Tagore composed 'national songs' of 2 countries kicks up row

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

A political row erupted on Tuesday following Union Home Minister Amit Shah's remark that Rabindranath Tagore had composed "national songs" of two countries. Participating in an event at the international border outpost of Petrapole in North 24 Parganas district of West Bengal, the Home Minister said that in the entire world "*Kabiguru* was the only person who had the privilege of writing the national songs of two countries".

"Once again, @BJP4India has proved that their leaders know nothing about the country's history. On the auspicious occasion of Rabindra Jayanti, Union Home Minister @AmitShah claims that the NATIONAL SONGS of India and Bangladesh were written by Rabindranath Tagore! This is what happens when you spend more time revising history rather than studying it," the Trinamool Congress tweeted.

Day of remembrance: Amit Shah pays tribute to Rabindranath Tagore at 'Jorasanko Thakurbari' in Kolkata on Tuesday. PTI

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, while participating in an event on Rabindra Jayanti, also took a swipe at the Minister's remarks.

Without directly naming Mr. Shah, Ms. Banerjee said that there are some people who, without knowing about Gurudev, come with a written note or a teleprompter and speak about the poet for the purpose of elections. The Chief Minister further pointed out that it was the national anthem "*Jana Gana Mana*" of India and "*Aamar Sonar Bangla*" of Bangladesh that were written by Gurudev.

Earlier in the day, the Home Minister visited Jorasanko Thakurbari in Kolkata, the ancestral house of Rabindranath Tagore and offered floral tributes.

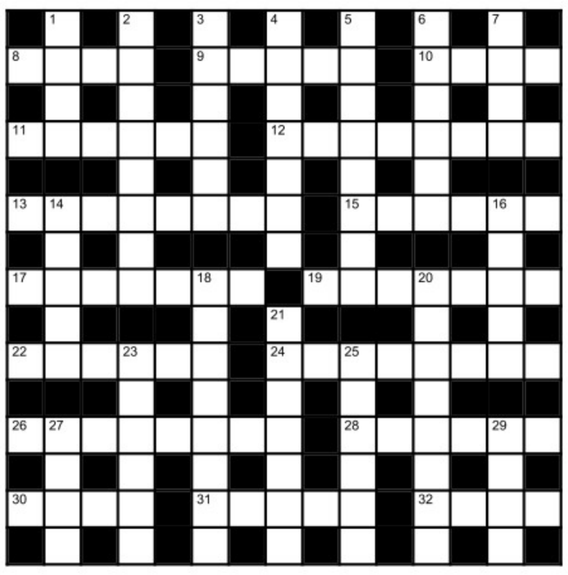
Mr. Shah also laid the foundation stone of Maitri Dwar, the second cargo gate of the Land Port Authority of India at Petrapole, and said it would enhance India's trade relations with Bangladesh.

TH CROSSWORD + 13861

(set by Incognito)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 Endless expectation with independence for Indians (4)
9 Fitting ring in snout makes a kind of snare (5)
10 Khan mutilated key of life from Egypt (4)
11 Excitedly peeping after ditching sweetheart in sty (6)
12 Extra hours spent working on repairing item (8)
13 Incarcerate descendant chasing scamp on Rhode Island (8)
15 Tesla gets earthquake warning (6)
17 Animal doctor managed to hide English ex-serviceman (7)
19 Teach European cadet walking around university (7)
22 Confused? Isis or some other Egyptian god? (6)
24 Set a rebel leader's reach with diktats initially (8)
26 Head of police touring hamlet including park and tract (8)
28 See 23 Down
30 Extraordinarily large piece of land returned in Calais area? (4)
31 Register English rector on leave at first (5)
32 American uncle hugs husband? It's a pretence... (4)

Down

1 Yankee girl's love starting to irritate Indian guru, perhaps (4)
2 Broadcast peers' IDs wrongly (8)
3 Fruit used in banana sundae (6)
4 German in city in Panama gets European perfume product (7)
5 Vanquished? Great achievement, indeed (8)
6 Restaurant employee dropping a piece of ice into liquid usually served (6)
7 Move over ice with male giving a hasty look (4)
14 Touches setter and aliens (5)
16 Cave in Levant region (5)
18 Sailor arrived at solution and gave a clean chit (8)
20 Sanctify in canoes at sea (8)
21 Catch and hold broken teacup containing a bit of residue (7)
23/28A Grave message on vehicle - "Secure king with ends of line" - for legendary sleeper (3,3,6)
25 Sort of slower rider's boot fittings (6)
27 Aluminium, sulphur and oxygen too (4)
29 Metal wire (4)

SUDOKU

	6				8			
	5			6				4
4			9	1				2
7	2						9	
9		6				4		8
	8						7	6
6				3	2			9
1				4			5	
			8				4	

No.SS5794 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

		E	X	P	E	C	T	O	R	A	N	T		
T		C		A		A		N		N		E		E
A	B	O	U	T		B	R	E	A	K	F	A	S	T
B		L		I		L		R		H		T		U
L	A	I	D	E	Y	E	S	O	N		C	O	L	D
E				N		D		U				W		E
T	R	O	U	T				E	S	C	A	P	E	S
		L		L						P		L		
R	A	I	N	Y	D	A	Y			O	A	S	I	S
H		V				L		S		S				I
E	V	E	N		P	L	A	I	N	T	I	F	F	S
U		D		B		E		E		O		E		T
M	A	R	D	I	G	R	A	S		L	E	V	E	E
Y		A		L		G		T		I		E		R
		B	E	L	L	Y	D	A	N	C	E	R		

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

4	5	1	2	7	9	8	6	3
2	3	9	6	8	4	7	5	1
6	8	7	1	3	5	9	2	4
8	6	3	9	4	1	5	7	2
5	1	2	8	6	7	4	3	9
7	9	4	5	2	3	6	1	8
9	2	5	7	1	8	3	4	6
3	7	6	4	9	2	1	8	5
1	4	8	3	5	6	2	9	7

FAITH

Prapatti the best means

What is the connection between karmas and prapatti (total surrender) to the Supreme One? Once a person surrenders at the lotus feet of Lord Narayana, his sanchita karma gets wiped out, said Valayapet Ramachariar, in a discourse. Sanchita karma is the accumulation of karmas over many births. Prarabdha karmas are those karmas which have started giving us results. The karmas which we did before prapatti are called Purvaka, and those done after prapatti are called Uttaraka. In Uttaraka, we have two categories – those which we do knowingly, and those which we do unknowingly. So, suppose we knowingly do something wrong, after prapatti, the Lord gives us small punishments. If we do something unknowingly after prapatti, these karmas get wiped out. A person does prapatti to attain moksha. Suppose his karmas should result in two more janmas, those two janmas get cancelled, once he resorts to prapatti. Thus, surrender is the ultimate means of attaining an exit from the samsaric cycle.

What about bhakti? Does it not yield the same outcome as prapatti? It does help us attain liberation, but it is not so simple as in the case of prapatti. In the case of prapatti, any leftover prarabdha karmas, after prapatti, become karmas for which we do not have to pay. But in the case of bhakti, we must fully experience the consequences of prarabdha karmas. Take the case of Sabari. She must have resorted to bhakti in some previous janma, and hence was born as a devotee of Lord. But prarabdha karma had brought her this birth. That is why prapatti is the best way to attain Lord's feet, because prapatti ends births completely.